

1906.
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QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN ON AGRICULTURAL
AND PASTORAL STATISTICS FOR 1905.

LIVE STOCK.

I have been prevented from securing an earlier issue of this Report by two causes. One of these has become chronic—the neglect of stockowners to make their returns within the time prescribed by law. The apathy displayed in this respect will, I am satisfied, never be overcome until drastic steps are taken to penalise defaulters. A few prosecutions in each district at an early period of the year, against persons depasturing substantial numbers, would speedily effect an alteration. A special cause of delay was the floods resulting from the seasonable rainfall experienced during the early months of the present year.

Although over a considerable area of Queensland the 1905 season was a very dry one, and at one period of the year matters were in such a critical condition in many places that a wholesale removal of stock appeared inevitable, yet fortunately the more favourable weather which had prevailed in parts in the previous year rendered the condition of the pastures equal to sustaining the stock in most cases for a sufficient length of time to stave off the necessity for this extreme action being adopted to any great extent. All anxiety on this head was removed when the promise of the last months of 1905 had full fruition in the copious rains of the earlier months of the present year.

Although the increases recorded with respect to live stock during 1905 were not so satisfactory as one could have wished, or even as were by many anticipated, yet they proved fairly substantial ones. The following table furnishes information as to the numbers of live stock in the State for each of the past two years:—

A.

Year.						Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1904	...	...	...	...	...	413,165	2,722,340	10,843,470	185,141
1905	...	...	...	...	...	430,565	2,963,695	12,535,231	164,087
Numerical Increase in 1905						17,400	241,355	1,691,761	...
Numerical Decrease in 1905						...	...	...	21,054
Centesimal Increase in 1905						4·21	8·87	15·60	...
Centesimal Decrease in 1905						...	...	...	11·37

At the end of 1905 there were in Queensland 430,565 horses, 2,963,695 cattle, 12,535,231 sheep, and 164,087 pigs, these numbers being in excess of those returned for the same date in the previous year by 17,400 horses, 241,355 cattle, and 1,691,761 sheep. There were fewer pigs in the State at the end of 1905 than at the end of 1904 by 21,054. These figures represent proportionate increases and decrease respectively of 4, 9, 16, and 11 per cent.

Early in the year, I issued an approximate forecast of the numbers of cattle and sheep. This advanced estimate has of necessity to be framed upon very imperfect data, and proved to be too low in both cases, but was surprisingly close with respect to sheep, the difference between the estimated and actual figures with respect to these amounting to less than 1 per cent. of the latter. The estimate was further afield as regards cattle, the difference being a little in excess of 3 per cent. A question that should not be lost sight of in connection with the increase of live stock after drought is the number put to profit during the year. After the droughts of 1877-8 and 1884-5—it is sometimes remarked—the recovery seemed relatively much more rapid than at present, it being forgotten that the flocks and herds were replenished by importations, and the increase was only kept in check to the extent of the then demands of an even more limited population than at present exists, whilst slaughtering for export was hardly in its infancy. Now large numbers are annually disposed of by export, both alive and in the carcase. It is impossible to both have your cake and eat it.

A comparison of the number of live stock depastured for each of the past ten years is given in the following table:—

A a.

SHOWING the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS in the STATE—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1896	452,207	6,507,377	19,593,696	97,434
1897	479,280	6,089,013	17,797,883	110,855
1898	480,469	5,571,292	17,552,608	127,081
1899	479,127	5,053,836	15,226,479	139,118
1900	456,788	4,078,191	10,339,185	122,187
1901	462,119	3,772,707	10,030,971	121,641
1902	399,122	2,543,471	7,213,985	77,202
1903	401,984	2,481,717	8,392,044	117,553
1904	413,165	2,722,340	10,843,470	185,141
1905	430,565	2,963,695	12,535,231	164,087

HORSES.—These do not vary to any considerable extent, as there is not at present any great, although an increasing, demand for export, and this and the requirements of the State are fully met by the average existing numbers of four to five hundred thousand. Last year's return of 430,565 showed an increase of 17,400 on the figures for 1904.

Entire Horses.—In 1904 provision was for the first time made on the stock schedules for the collection of the number of stallions in the State. As is invariably the result when any new item is added to a form, for the first year or two, owing to the faulty way in which the public make out the returns, they are not of much use as regards the new particulars. So much was this the case in 1904 that I did not feel justified in publishing the results. The schedules were undoubtedly much better filled in in 1905, and the following figures are probably fairly correct. The returns showed 4,353 entires in the whole State. Districts recording the largest numbers were Rockhampton and Mackay, 218 each; Toowoomba, 130; Bowen, 117; Gladstone, 116; Charters Towers, 199; and Warwick, 92. The question of the exportation of horses will be dealt with under Table Ac further on in the Report.

CATTLE.—Although the 2,963,695 cattle in the State on 31st December last year were rather less than half the number recorded in the earlier years of the decade, yet they amounted to a substantial increase on the figures of the three previous years. Starting in 1894 with 7,012,997, the largest number ever depastured in the State, the number declined through each year of the prolonged drought until the minimum of 2,481,717 was reached in 1903. During the two first years of this period the decrease was contributed to in part by an abnormally large export of animals on the hoof for the southern markets. With the return of more favourable weather in 1904 and 1905, increases of 240,623 and 241,355 were respectively recorded.

SHEEP.—On referring to the figures for the past ten years, it is seen that there were 19,593,696 sheep at the end of the first year of the decade and 12,535,231 at the end of 1905, but the latter figure is an increase of 5,321,246 on the number for 1902, when the lowest record of the decade, or, indeed, since 1880, was registered. The minimum of 1902 was reached by decreases each year from 1896, extreme drops of practically 5,000,000 and 3,000,000 being recorded in 1900 and 1902 respectively.

PIGS.—The fluctuation in the number of pigs possesses no special significance. In 1904 there were 185,141 in Queensland, the most ever returned; last year this fell to 164,087, due to a large increase in the number slaughtered. With so prolific an animal, it would have been easy to replace the numbers required to meet the greatly increased demand; but, owing to the dry season making feed of high value, the profit from pigs was insufficient to induce farmers to go in for breeding for that season, with a consequent decrease in numbers, as recorded.

The following table showing the centesimal ratio of increase or decrease in each kind of live stock for each of the last ten years gives a good idea of the effect of the prolonged drought that has just passed away:—

A b.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1896	— 3·53	— 4·63	— 1·33	— 3·29
1897	5·99	— 6·43	— 9·17	13·77
1898	0·25	— 8·50	— 1·38	14·64
1899	— 0·28	— 9·29	— 13·25	9·47
1900	— 4·66	— 19·31	— 32·10	— 12·17
1901	1·17	— 7·49	— 2·98	— 0·45
1902	— 13·63	— 32·58	— 28·08	— 36·53
1903	0·72	— 2·43	16·33	52·27
1904	2·78	9·70	29·21	57·50
1905	4·21	8·87	15·60	— 11·37

— Decrease.

The years 1904 and 1905 were the only ones of the decade in which increases were recorded for all three kinds of stock, horses, cattle, and sheep.

Reference has already been made as to the extent of the export trade in horses. Although in no way commensurate with the possibilities of Queensland, seeing how well adapted the climate and the pastures are to the successful breeding and rearing of horses, yet the value of horses sent away in excess

of those introduced last year exceeded £200,000, thus contributing very substantially to the revenue of the pastoral industry. Particulars as to the trade in horses are furnished in the following table:—

A c.

HORSES IMPORTED DURING 1905.

						Number.		Value.	
								£	£
Oversea—									
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	160	...	13,129	
Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	1,794	
South Australia	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	156	
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	290	
							188		15,369
Borderwise—									
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	669	...	8,843	
South Australia	...	...	...	...	...	381	...	2,461	
							1,050		11,304
Total						...	1,238	...	26,673

HORSES EXPORTED DURING 1905.

Oversea—									
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	25	
Natal	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	100	
Hong Kong	...	...	...	...	...	6,342	...	75,413	
India	...	...	...	...	...	2,905	...	40,248	
British New Guinea	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	20	
Straits Settlements	...	...	...	...	...	43	...	442	
New Pommern	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	34	
Philippines	...	...	...	...	...	582	...	7,036	
Java	...	...	...	...	...	59	...	990	
Portuguese East Africa	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	50	
							9,946		124,358
Interstate—									
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	6,628	...	94,021	
Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	466	
South Australia	...	...	...	...	...	2,230	...	18,174	
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	...	145	...	1,975	
							9,009		114,636
Total						...	18,955	...	238,994

The imports last year numbered 1,238, valued at £26,673, against 2,262, worth £30,704, in the previous year. For 1905 they consisted of interstate transfers only, whilst in 1904 two horses were also received from New Zealand. The imports principally consist of pedigree horses and racers and a few returned drovers' outfits, and would naturally comprise many horses of considerable value. The average per head for imports last year was about double that of the exports. There were 18,955 horses sent out of Queensland last year, worth £238,994, or of an average value of £12 12s. each; 9,009 of these were interstate, of an aggregate value of £114,636, and an average value of £12 14s. 6d.; and 9,946 were sent overseas, of the value of £124,358, equal to £12 10s. per head. The interstate export of horses, unlike the import, is beginning to possess a special significance; the excess over the imports is partly due to the fact that drovers taking cattle and sheep for the southern States, on reaching their destination frequently also sell their horses so as to save time by returning to Queensland by sea, and a proportion of the net export to New South Wales is no doubt attributable to this cause, but an important share in the excess export is contributed by a direct trade for sale of horses to South Australia, a leading Australian pastoralist having established large yards at Kapunda, where a number of Queensland horses were disposed of last year at auction at a satisfactory figure, a consignment of ninety-six from one station realising an average of £26 10s. 6d. per head. Nearly all the overseas export was to Hongkong and India, these two countries absorbing 64 and 29 per cent. respectively of the total number. Five hundred and eighty-two horses were also sent to the Philippines. Both Hongkong and Manilla are centres of export only recently opened up.

A comparison of each kind of live stock with both the area and population of Queensland is afforded by the following table:—

A d.

IN CONVERTING HORSES AND CATTLE TO TERMS OF SHEEP, TEN HEAD OF SHEEP ARE TAKEN AS EQUAL TO ONE HORSE OR HEAD OF CATTLE.

						Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	All kinds in terms of Sheep.	Pigs.	All kinds, including Pigs, in terms of Sheep.
Per Square Mile	...	...	...	...	...	0·64	4·43	18·75	69·53	...	...
Per Capita of Population	...	...	...	...	...	0·82	5·61	23·74	88·02	0·31	88·33

There was at the end of 1905 rather over one sheep or its equivalent, grazing to each 10 acres throughout the State. Even allowing for unavailable areas, there is no doubt that in normal seasons even the natural herbage is capable of sustaining a much larger number; but in view of the liability of the recurrence of drought, not only must the conservation of water be persevered in, but provision for

such periods must be made by the production and storage of artificial feed, if disastrous loss of stock is to be avoided. The pastoral character of the country and its industries is well illustrated by the second line of the foregoing table. There were 0·82 of a horse, 5·61 cattle, and 23·74 sheep depastured in Queensland to each inhabitant last year, an equivalent of eighty-eight sheep.

The following table shows how the 2,963,695 cattle returned in 1905 were distributed amongst their owners. There is a small amount of duplication of owners in this table, as all herds held and returned on separate holdings count as an owner; on the other hand, cattle held in partnership count as one owner only:—

A e.
SIZES OF HERDS OF CATTLE.

Petty Sessions District.	1 to 100.		101 to 300.		301 to 1,000.		1,001 and upwards.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.
Bowen	175	3,611	14	3,012	15	8,710	18	62,117	222	77,450
Burke	8	312	3	695	6	3,325	15	122,209	32	126,541
Charters Towers ...	264	5,353	19	31,72	3	1,895	21	77,905	307	88,325
Cloncurry	35	761	6	837	2	700	9	92,517	52	94,815
Etheridge	47	1,602	20	3,575	11	5,670	11	94,477	89	105,324
Gladstone	304	7,156	38	7,219	38	21,213	19	49,728	399	85,316
Norman	14	432	1	120	3	1,800	24	184,911	42	187,263
Richmond	52	1,539	12	2,012	1	434	11	72,185	76	76,170
Rockhampton	805	17,347	91	16,420	41	23,534	30	64,816	967	122,117
All other Districts	21,473	455,264	1,257	216,708	426	239,061	351	1,089,341	23,507	2,000,374
Totals	23,177	493,377	1,461	253,770	546	306,342	509	1,910,206	25,693	2,963,695

There were 25,693 persons who owned cattle to a greater or less extent, of these 23,177 held 493,377 in herds of less than 100, so that 2,516 persons owned 2,470,318 head, or 83 per cent. of the total number, but 509 persons only held nearly two-thirds—64 per cent.—of all the cattle depastured.

The average size of each herd has greatly decreased during the past ten years, as may be seen from the following table:—

A f.

Year.						Number of Owners.	Number of Cattle.	Average Size of Herd.
1896 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	22,702	6,507,377	287
1897 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23,442	6,089,013	260
1898 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24,244	5,571,292	230
1899 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24,689	5,053,836	205
1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25,180	4,078,191	162
1901 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25,650	3,772,707	147
1902 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24,399	2,543,471	104
1903 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23,610	2,481,717	105
1904 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24,615	2,722,340	111
1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25,693	2,963,695	115

Although this condition has been largely contributed to by the drought so largely reducing the total number, yet the figures point to a somewhat wider distribution than formerly obtained.

The ownership of sheep is much more restricted than that of cattle.

A g.
SIZES OF FLOCKS OF SHEEP.

Petty Sessions District.	50 and under.		51 to 1,000.		1,001 to 5,000.		5,001 to 20,000.		20,001 and upwards.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.
Adavale	1	40	...	...	2	8,000	2	25,313	5	307,396	10	340,749
Alpha	6	116	9	2,730	9	28,382	11	102,540	1	21,573	36	155,341
Aramac	4	29	3	865	6	15,475	8	78,424	5	170,236	26	265,029
Augathella	5	104	3	758	3	7,750	3	34,377	2	157,586	16	200,575
Barcaldine	6	95	14	7,917	14	38,199	13	124,779	7	432,232	54	603,222
Blackall	5	119	6	1,495	9	26,204	11	125,855	8	413,084	39	566,757
Bollon	5	98	5	2,278	4	11,300	13	116,534	7	290,924	34	421,134
Charleville	10	218	15	7,131	13	40,225	12	119,446	4	167,449	54	334,469
Clermont	18	475	13	3,597	9	30,162	2	24,230	7	317,747	49	376,211
Cloncurry	4	56	2	310	1	3,883	3	28,897	5	246,033	15	279,179
Cunnamulla	6	110	4	2,495	26	81,346	20	182,515	11	602,121	67	868,587
Dalby	17	361	101	46,466	55	120,252	8	65,409	7	329,400	188	561,888
Eulo	1	11	5	2,340	3	5,100	7	52,180	3	92,748	19	152,379
Goondiwindi	6	79	13	6,883	15	41,388	9	92,472	3	159,071	46	295,893
Hughenden	1	22	7	4,010	11	28,383	10	111,592	7	262,374	36	406,381
Isisford	4	73	7	3,861	3	9,684	1	9,000	6	297,892	21	320,510
Jundah	1	34	1	950	6	12,060	2	15,000	2	127,600	12	155,644
Longreach	9	153	16	9,869	23	70,742	12	107,001	9	573,857	69	761,622
Muttaburra	1	20	2	740	17	54,670	22	237,666	14	693,115	56	986,211
Richmond	2	40	3	1,436	15	48,204	14	160,354	6	327,666	40	537,700
Roma	15	402	26	9,050	14	31,741	3	45,017	2	93,918	60	180,128
St. George	4	118	13	5,692	13	49,187	26	252,903	8	391,169	64	699,069
Springsure	6	171	11	5,411	10	21,772	4	29,800	4	154,327	35	211,481
Surat	4	155	8	4,966	22	59,238	7	48,350	4	150,213	45	262,922
Tambo	3	60	3	2,012	4	7,450	7	84,497	6	277,269	23	371,288
Toowoomba	20	526	131	61,266	44	108,776	9	95,435	6	288,249	210	554,252
Winton	6	177	4	552	8	24,780	8	67,600	8	275,728	34	368,837
All other Districts	342	7,353	408	124,892	106	262,128	40	466,200	15	433,200	911	1,293,773
Totals	512	11,215	833	319,972	465	1,246,481	287	2,903,886	172	8,054,177	2,269	12,535,231

There were in 1905 only 2,269 persons who owned any sheep in Queensland. Of these 1,345 only held 331,187 in flocks of less than 1,000, so that 924 owners possessed 12,204,044 sheep, or an average of 13,298 each.

For a number of years past a change in the management of sheep stations has been evolving. Commencing with paddocking in place of shepherding, it has gradually extended in the more settled areas to the more rational method of combining grazing with true agriculture, thus initiating an ever extending system of artificial feeding. The export of frozen meat to Europe has developed a branch of grazing the expansion of which tends to a like result. The carcasses of lambs of a large type bring in the markets of the United Kingdom most satisfactory returns. To economically produce these, close paddocking, combined with hand-feeding, is essential, and much attention, especially on the Downs, is now being given to rearing them. Not only is it being from year to year demonstrated that such methods will pay in normal seasons, but it has time and again been proved that herein lies the only hope of preventing disastrous losses in time of drought. This change, in progress prior to the recent dry cycle, was no doubt hastened thereby, and has resulted of necessity in a wider distribution of sheep and in a reduction in the numbers held by individual owners. This will be readily seen from the following table:—

A h.

Year.	No. of Owners.	No. of Sheep.	Average Size of Flocks.
1896	1,664	19,593,696	11,775
1897	1,793	17,797,883	9,926
1898	1,835	17,552,608	9,565
1899	1,897	15,226,479	8,027
1900	1,950	10,339,185	5,302
1901	2,018	10,030,971	4,970
1902	2,052	7,213,985	3,516
1903	1,914	8,392,044	4,385
1904	1,993	10,843,470	5,441
1905	2,269	12,535,231	5,525

Whilst in 1896 there were 1,664 persons owning between them 19,593,696 sheep, an average of 11,775 to each, last year the average amounted to 5,525 only, or less than one-half the average number of ten years previously.

As already referred to, there are now a great many more methods of putting live stock to profit than formerly obtained, and most fortunate has it been for Australia that this is so; but these very causes operate to retard a rapid increase in the numbers depastured. One of the means of disposal is that of export alive out of the State. The following table gives the numbers of cattle and sheep both imported and exported for each of the last ten years:—

A i.

Year.	Cattle.		Sheep.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
1896	10,127	272,622	94,620	899,720
1897	13,197	176,329	289,768	1,114,270
1898	13,867	194,648	158,843	641,412
1899	16,972	205,243	200,523	463,276
1900	9,370	69,979	103,967	487,934
1901	32,439	74,066	297,628	277,738
1902	11,593	35,299	193,243	140,030
1903	56,175	78,988	272,948	277,725
1904	41,086	139,745	94,117	294,496
1905	25,099	75,044	148,163	529,602

Last year there were 49,945 head of cattle and 381,439 sheep sent out of Queensland in excess of those brought in. The number of sheep exported during 1905—namely, 529,602—has only been exceeded on three occasions during the last decade, the last being in 1898.

If all the various methods of disposal are considered and the numbers summarised, it will be seen to what extent the natural increase is thus trenched upon:—

A k.

	CATTLE.		SHEEP.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
Preserved, frozen, and boiled down	70,753	80,759	101,034	287,499
Exported, less number imported	98,659	49,945	200,379	381,439
Estimated number killed for food for home consumption*	143,002	134,257	310,413	306,289
Totals put to profit	312,414	264,961	611,826	975,227

* N.B.—Based on Slaughter-house returns.

More than a quarter of a million cattle and nearly one million sheep were disposed of during 1905. In 1904, there was a larger output of cattle for profit than in 1905, but the converse was the case as regards sheep. In the latter year, 80,759 cattle were preserved frozen and chiefly for foreign markets;

49,945 were exported alive in excess of import; and 134,257 were consumed for food within the State. Of sheep, 287,499 were preserved frozen, &c., 381,439 were exported (net), and 306,289 were used for home consumption. By a reference to Appendix Tables III., IV., V. of this Report, further details may be gathered respecting the utilisation of live stock. Amongst the exports was an item of £140,000 to the Philippines, which form a portion of £171,000 of Queensland produce sent to that country. There were fifteen factories engaged in the killing of live stock and converting the carcasses into marketable commodities. Summaries of the particulars contained in the abovementioned tables are as follow:—

A l.

No. of Establishments.	Kind of Establishments.	No. of Hands Employed.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Premises.	Value of Output.
4	Bacon Curing..	173	£ 45,492	£ 7,318	£ 176,642
11	Meat Preserving	1,343	317,856	363,338	1,103,547
15		1,516	362,848	370,656	1,280,189

Eleven of the fifteen were engaged in handling cattle and sheep, and four of them were for the slaughter of pigs alone; 1,516 hands were employed in the industry, in which a capital of £763,504 was invested, and an output for 1905, valued at £1,280,189, was secured. Of the 80,759 cattle slaughtered, 66,288 were preserved by freezing, 14,315 by boiling, and 156 only passed through the boilers for tallow. Frozen beef weighed 47,846,259 lb., or 11,000,000 more than in the previous year; whilst there were also 9,982,659 lb. preserved in tin, and 57,421 lb. salted; from the former process a proportion of the extract and essence made was obtained. Sheep slaughtered for freezing last year numbered 267,248, against 190,828 in 1904, and furnished 12,381,958 lb. of frozen mutton; 20,186 were fresh preserved, returning 779,122 lb.; whilst from beef and mutton combined, 58,803 lb. of extract and essence, and 4,179 tons of tallow were obtained.

Hogs.—The slaughter and preservation of the pig is almost a distinct industry, the export of the frozen carcase has also been added within recent years, 15,248 pigs having been frozen last year, yielding 1,139,997 lb. of fresh pork. As Great Britain imports annually about £20,000,000 of pork and bacon, it will be seen that a wide field exists there for the sale of these products, and besides the question of export the demand within the State has become greatly augmented.

There were nearly 50 per cent. more pigs slaughtered last year than in 1904—153,136 against 106,633. A large quantity of pork, bacon, and ham is made outside of the four factories specially engaged in the industry. The chief centres of production and their respective outputs are shown in the following table:—

A m.

Petty Sessions District.	Hogs Slaughtered.	Fresh Pork.	Salt Pork.	Bacon and Hams.
	Number.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Beaudesert	545	9,050	1,620	50,840
Brisbane	88,810	666,692	101,553	6,360,374
Bundaberg	1,624	24,888	44,378	48,474
Childers	711	7,072	17,045	33,541
Clifton	574	30	45,433	24,653
Crow's Nest	629	450	1,662	68,826
Dalby	875	15,245	4,852	60,941
Gatton	6,768	6,773	9,877	807,822
Gin Gin	526	2,479	26,729	9,450
Gympie	715	5,251	8,346	39,378
Highfields	813	936	1,140	106,250
Ipswich	695	21,730	18,486	16,154
Laidley	931	13,137	21,613	77,063
Logan	758	22,240	66,731	17,410
Mackay	624	10,139	14,813	27,285
Maroochy	682	2,497	21,229	41,798
Maryborough	733	7,089	24,984	30,862
Nanango	887	3,560	4,913	65,910
Rockhampton	6,987	254,029	107,267	180,839
Roma	918	14,281	8,572	52,795
South Brisbane	24,902	190,230	45,200	1,550,614
Tiaro	625	9,558	16,014	27,565
Toowoomba	1,880	24,328	26,428	137,065
Warwick	1,140	5,327	10,420	110,666
All Other Districts	8,784	149,621	163,944	553,760
Total, 1905	153,136	1,466,632	816,249	10,500,335
„ 1904	106,633	1,753,236	378,411	6,514,852

N.B.—Returns received from Inspectors of Slaughter-houses for 1905 account for 32,653 pigs killed, producing 2,523,105 lb. of fresh pork in addition to the above. In a few instances it is possible that some of these have been also included in the returns from which this table is compiled, but to what extent it is impossible to determine.

Of all pigs killed, 113,712, or 74 per cent., were slaughtered within the metropolitan district, Rockhampton and Gatton were the only other two districts where any considerable number were handled, they between them absorbing an additional 10 per cent. of the whole. From all the pigs killed, 1,466,632 lb. of fresh pork, 816,249 lb. of salt pork, and 10,500,335 lb. of bacon and hams were obtained, giving an average of 83 lb. of dressed meat to each pig slaughtered.

HOME CONSUMPTION OF MEAT.

Information on this head, furnished in Table Ak, is based on actual experience with respect to nineteen-twentieths of the population, as supplied by returns from inspectors of slaughter-houses, with *pro rata* allowances for population not embraced in the returns. The results of the actual returns are shown in Table IV. in the Appendix. Covering the actual consumption of 508,000 of the total population it shows that the per capita demand for 1905 was 168 lb. of beef, 28 lb. mutton, and 6 lb. of pork, veal, and lamb, giving a total average meat consumption for the year of 202 lb. This was some 6 lb. per capita less than that for 1904, of which about 5 lb. consisted of beef, and when taken in conjunction with the greater weight per head of cattle last year resulted in a reduction of 3,177 in the number of cattle required for home consumption, notwithstanding that some 4,500 more persons had to be fed. In comparing these ratios with those of countries where there are great differences as to climate, standard of living, or price, due allowance must be made for the quantity wasted in Queensland, which is included, of course, in the "consumption." The same table furnishes interesting information as to the average dressed weight of live stock of all kinds slaughtered for home consumption, cattle averaging 662 lb., sheep 48 lb., calves 62 lb., lambs 34 lb., and hogs at 77 lb.

BY-PRODUCTS.

With but slight exception the slaughter of all stock is conducted with great care as regards the conservation of by-products. Only three—and these are very insignificant ones—of the factories engaged in this industry failed to give a full return of by-products. Full particulars respecting the others are given in Table V. in the Appendix. The aggregate value of all these for last year was £208,729, exclusive of tallow and lard, which are not considered as by-products. The contents of the table comprise the following items:—Hides, No. 90,184; value, £92,405. Skins, No. 308,917; value, £63,937. Edible fats, 1,036,602 lb.; value, £15,727. Manure, 1,566 tons, £8,466. Horns and hoofs, £3,717. Bones, 167 tons, £1,033; and hair oils, &c., &c., £23,444.

MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCE ENCOURAGEMENT ACT.

There are still thirteen establishments working under this statute, but it is satisfactory to note a reduced indebtedness. The following statement furnishes full particulars:—

A n.

"MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCE ENCOURAGEMENT ACT."

Number of works to which advances have been made	...	...	...	...	13	
					£	s. d.
Amount advanced to 31st December, 1905	...	...	...	...	100,437	5 0
Indebtedness (including interest on 31st December, 1905)	...	...	...	...	63,231	4 10
Number of works in operation under Act on 31st December, 1905	...	...	...	...	10	
					£	s. d.
Amount advanced on the said works	...	...	...	...	95,305	5 0
Balance owing on the said works on 31st December, 1905	...	...	...	...	61,075	3 5
Interest accrued but not due to 31st December, 1905	...	...	...	...	603	17 8
Interest due by three companies but not yet paid	...	...	...	...	1,552	3 9

WOOL.

It has always been the practice to take the quantity of wool exported as representing the production, but now that there is no State Customs Department, and it is possible that at no distant date interstate transfers will no longer be recorded, it will be necessary to devise some method of collecting the actual production. In the meantime, the export must be accepted, and this for 1905 was as follows:—

A o.

Exports.	QUANTITY.			VALUE.		
	Interstate.	Oversea.	Total.	Interstate.	Oversea.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Wool (scoured)	8,872,333	8,223,920	17,096,253	623,506	594,908	1,218,414
Wool (greasy)	17,101,100	18,875,374	35,976,474	698,629	732,708	1,431,337
Total, 1905	25,973,433	27,099,294	53,072,727	1,322,135	1,327,616	2,649,751
Total, 1904	18,302,087	27,756,395	46,058,482	970,555	1,310,369	2,280,924
Increase, 1905	7,671,346	...	7,014,245	351,580	17,247	368,827
Decrease, 1905	...	657,101	...	...	...	...

The total export was 53,072,727 lb., of a value of £2,649,751, against 46,058,482 lb., of a value of £2,280,924 in 1904, or an increase in the former year of 7,014,245 lb. Of the total, 17,096,253 lb. were scoured and 35,976,474 lb. were shipped in the grease. Rather more than half the shipment, 27,099,294 lb., were sent oversea, the remaining 25,973,433 being sent interstate, no doubt in the end, however, being transmitted to Europe.

The average export value of wool per lb., as declared at the Customs for each of the last five years, was as follows:—

A p.

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Greasy wool (average)	7¾d. per lb.	8d. per lb.	8½d. per lb.	8¾d. per lb.	9¼d. per lb.
Clean „	13¾d. „	14¼d. „	16¼d. „	16¾d. „	17d. „

The value for 1905 was in advance of anything secured for many years, being $\frac{7}{8}$ of a penny for greasy and $\frac{5}{6}$ of a penny for scoured above the quotation for 1904.

Although the amount of wool utilised in Queensland is limited in the extreme, there was a slightly enhanced demand in 1905.

A q.

—				1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
				lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Wool used in manufacture	...	...	...	156,000	109,646	84,117	92,901	112,430

The 112,430 lb. used last year being in excess of the quantity in any year since 1901.

EXPORT—QUEENSLAND PRIMARY PRODUCTS.

Although only relating in parts to the products of pastoral pursuits, the following table may not be without interest:—

A r.

—				1904.		1905.	
				—	Percentage, Total Exports (Home Produce).	—	Percentage, Total Exports (Home Produce).
				£		£	
Agricultural	...	...	...	2,019,049	18·60	2,488,998	21·31
Pastoral	...	...	...	4,842,407	44·62	5,096,350	43·62
Mineral	...	...	...	3,404,772	31·37	3,564,718	30·51
Other	...	...	...	587,708	5·41	532,220	4·56
Total	...	...	...	£10,853,936	100·00	£11,682,286	100·00

The output of all included production in Queensland last year may be approximately estimated as worth £11,682,286, of this £5,096,350, or 44 per cent., was the result of the pastoral industry. The latter is a slightly lower ratio to the whole than obtained in 1904, but this was not in any way due to a decline in the products of grazing, but to the great advance in the output of agriculture proper.

A comparison of these exports is contained in the following table:—

A s.

—				1904.	1905.	Increase or — Decrease, 1905.
				£	£	£
Pastoral—						
Wool	...	...	...	2,280,924	2,649,751	368,827
Live stock	...	...	...	1,404,419	1,132,081	— 272,338
*Meat (all kinds, including Extract)	...	...	...	656,722	711,831	55,109
Tallow	...	...	...	183,372	202,258	18,886
Hides and skins	...	...	...	242,919	304,642	61,723
All other	...	...	...	74,051	95,787	21,736

* Exclusive of Bacon, Poultry, &c., these being treated as products of Agriculture.

ANGORA GOATS.

As an industry, the breeding and browsing of Angora goats does not make any large amount of progress. For the purpose of obtaining mohair for export it is practically non-existent, although several owners speak in strong terms of the value of the animal as a standby for the poor man for meat and milk. For clearing land of scrub and undergrowth, there is little doubt that a flock of goats should prove a valuable adjunct to any grazing proprietor. There appears to be no sufficient reason why under suitable conditions hair-yielding goats should not prove a profitable investment. Their rearing presents no special difficulties. The climate in many parts of the State is well adapted to the animal, good mohair will always find a ready sale at a good price, and land of least use for sheep or cattle is best adapted for the goat. It is, perhaps, in this direction that failure has sometimes resulted. Goats are not grazing animals; they are browsers; and, although they will live on grass, yet will not thrive unless their natural condition of feeding is provided for.

It has not been found possible to ascertain the number of purebred Angoras in the State, but the returns for 1905 show that thirty-five persons owned 2,855 purebred and grade animals, against thirty-three owners and about 2,000 goats in the previous year. In both years the mohair brought on an average 8d. to 9d. per lb., although there was a wide range of price in individual cases. The quantities returned as produced were:—1905, 992 lb.; and 1904, 1,216 lb. Skins also find a ready sale at from 1s. 9d. to 2s. each.

DAIRYING, ETC.

Although dairying during 1905 failed to make the remarkable progress over the experience of the previous year, which so characterised the industry during 1904, yet a substantial advance was recorded. The great expansion exhibited in 1904, when the output considerably more than doubled in the twelve months, could not, of course, be maintained; but, as last year the production of butter increased by 16 per cent., the season's experience can only be considered a most satisfactory one.

The chief drawback to this industry is the ever-recurring and monotonous labour in connection with milking. The securing of some mechanical device to modify, if not obviate, this demand on the time and patience of the farmer's staff has claimed the attention of many inventors, with varying results. The contrivance, to be effective, must not be injurious to the cow, must be reasonably simple in its application, and moderate in cost. Several of the implements first employed failed to meet the primary condition, and were, of course, worse than useless, and created a very natural prejudice against subsequent efforts; but mechanism has now been practically applied for prolonged periods with results declared by persons using them to be entirely satisfactory, and some have given undeniable evidence of their belief by adding to their plant. Others have been less successful, but failure on the part of some would in such a new departure be inevitable. The weight of evidence seems to point to the solution of a problem, which by the drudgery involved has undoubtedly deterred many from entering upon the dairying industry.

The export trade with the United Kingdom has now been well established, and the reputation secured by Queensland butter has resulted in good prices being obtained. It deeply concerns all that this reputation should be maintained; it is, therefore, to be hoped that only butter of the best quality will be allowed to reach the home market from Queensland, and that the system of Government inspection be rigidly carried out to secure this result.

There were 9,132 establishments handling cream and butter during 1905, against 8,343 in the previous year, an increase of 789, there being a reduction of 88 in the number of establishments making butter, and an increase of 877 creameries. The following table furnishes full information as to the output of these establishments, and the number in operation in each of the more important districts of the State:—

B.

RETURN OF BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES AND THE RESULTS OBTAINED THEREFROM DURING THE YEAR 1905; ALSO
PRODUCTION BY PRIVATE MAKERS.

DISTRICT.	ESTABLISHMENTS HANDLING		MILK, CREAM, AND BUTTER.					CHEESE.		
	Cream Only.	Cream and Butter.	*Milk dealt with.	*Cream Produced.	BUTTER MADE.			Producers.	Milk Dealt with.	Cheese.
					At Central Factories.	By Farmers.	Total.			
			Gallons.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		Gallons.	Lb.
Allora	112	99	1,304,792	1,017,467	...	39,959	39,959	...	...	...
Beaudesert	8	298	3,272,672	2,772,182	1,668,237	74,073	1,742,310	...	...	...
Brisbane	103	92	750,784	526,155	3,903,029	51,652	3,954,681	...	...	...
Bundaberg	35	270	901,334	735,687	267,434	98,640	366,074	1	168	168
Clifton	89	13	812,325	767,907	43,120	10,412	53,532	3	560,691	530,855
Crow's Nest	77	234	1,169,741	962,231	385,155	28,722	413,877	2	9,420	9,420
Dalby	117	134	800,085	709,783	86,464	19,524	105,988	...	...	...
Dugandan	134	185	2,111,650	2,090,395	704,465	12,689	717,154	...	...	...
Esk	182	43	1,644,151	1,448,970	435,147	7,709	442,856	...	...	...
Gatton	404	196	3,247,621	2,671,858	348,832	25,294	374,126	1	1,720	1,720
Gympie	56	176	966,860	686,376	486,808	42,113	528,921	...	...	...
Harrisville	253	11	2,117,287	1,640,196	38,962	4,885	43,847	1	30,143	26,000
Highfields	332	33	1,641,092	1,157,074	...	4,900	4,900	1	86,850	95,154
Ipswich	209	48	1,791,247	1,489,045	2,554,789	9,056	2,563,845	...	...	...
Laidley	356	2	1,702,815	1,555,450	...	7,038	7,038	...	...	...
Logan	199	108	1,049,086	891,135	...	23,698	23,698	...	...	...
Marburg	209	...	2,237,900	1,983,121	588,642	...	588,642	...	...	...
Maryborough	90	217	800,657	606,356	495,575	46,891	542,466	...	...	...
Nanango	10	175	854,717	595,347	...	29,076	29,076	...	...	...
Nerang	20	156	1,232,108	1,066,898	...	33,557	33,557	...	...	...
Redcliffe	193	22	1,054,587	1,054,587	445,396	27,225	472,621	...	...	...
Rockhampton	69	188	1,615,784	1,128,886	468,241	121,207	589,448	...	...	...
Rosewood	218	27	1,814,577	1,635,407	...	25,120	25,120	...	...	...
South Brisbane	22	73	251,521	212,670	841,069	39,571	880,640	...	...	...
Tiaro	47	155	1,594,900	1,107,118	612,318	28,353	640,671	1	2,352	2,352
Toowoomba	347	347	2,669,242	2,554,100	3,401,804	55,890	3,457,694	6	930,049	1,000,068
Warwick	113	214	1,691,392	1,544,310	948,542	62,171	1,010,713	4	724,478	732,722
Woodford	120	32	745,781	731,287	...	6,319	6,319	1	11,000	11,000
All other Districts	413	1,047	4,136,615	3,246,156	186,426	473,777	660,203	7	269,500	272,630
Totals 1905	4,537	4,595	45,983,323	38,588,154	18,910,455	1,409,521	20,319,976	28	2,626,371	2,682,089
Totals 1904	3,660	4,683	40,237,540	30,739,310	15,989,131	1,549,342	17,538,473	47	2,654,471	2,607,475
Increase 1905	877	...	5,745,783	7,848,844	2,921,324	...	2,781,503	...	...	74,614
Decrease 1905	...	88	...	...	...	139,821	...	19	28,100	...

* N.B.—The quantities of milk and cream in any district bear but little relation to the butter made in that district, as much of the milk and cream is conveyed elsewhere, from the place of production, for manufacture.

The milk handled in connection with the production of butter amounted in 1905 to 45,983,323 gallons, or 5,745,783 gallons more than in 1904. This does not, of course, include milk used as such for domestic consumption. From the above quantity of milk 38,588,154 lb. of cream were obtained, or an average to each gallon of milk of 0·84 lb. The butter manufactured amounted to 20,319,976 lb., or 0·53 lb. to each lb. of cream. Of the total butter, 18,910,455 lb. were made at central factories, against 15,989,131 in 1904, an increase of 2,921,324 lb., and 1,409,521 lb. by farmers, or a decrease of 139,821 lb., as compared with the previous year, so that 93 per cent. of the total output was factory butter. The following statement compares the average yields for the past five years:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
1 gallon of milk yielded lb. cream ...	0·73	0·72	0·73	0·76	0·84
1 gallon of milk yielded lb. butter ...	0·37	0·35	0·41	0·40	0·44
1 lb. cream yielded lb. butter ...	0·51	0·49	0·56	0·57	0·53
1 lb. butter was made from gallons milk	2·70	2·84	2·43	2·50	2·26
1 lb. butter was made from lb. cream...	1·97	2·05	1·78	1·75	1·90

Confining attention to the averages for the two years last past, it would appear that the average quality of the milk was slightly better in 1905 than in 1904, as shown by the larger quantity of butter obtained from a given measurement of milk—namely, 0·44 lb. of butter in each gallon in the former and 0·40 in the latter year; but the separation of the cream does not seem to have been so closely carried out in 1905, as although a larger quantity was obtained from each gallon—namely, 0·84 lb. in place of 0·76 lb.—yet each lb. of cream contained less butter, returning only 0·53 lb. instead of 0·57 lb.

On referring to the records of the principal dairying districts, as shown in the foregoing table, it is necessary to reiterate what has so often been stated, that there is no relation whatever between the milk and the butter produced in any individual district, and there is even a considerable disturbance of the connection between the milk and the cream.

Milk obtained in one district is sometimes separated in another, whilst the cream is most generally carried out of its district of origin either as milk or cream for the extraction of the butter. Thus Beaudesert and Gatton are the premier districts in the order named for milk production, each recording over 3,000,000 gallons, followed by Toowoomba, Marburg, Harrisville, and Dugandan, with aggregates ranging from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 gallons. The three districts first named, it is true, retained their respective stations as regards cream output with—Beaudesert, 2,772,182 lb.; Gatton, 2,671,858 lb.; and Toowoomba, 2,554,100 lb.; but the figures for Marburg, Harrisville, and Dugandan show clearly that much of the separation took place out of the district of production, the disparity between milk and cream being too great to admit of any other explanation. The disturbance is, of course, much greater as regards butter, most of the cream being transferred to the larger centres for conversion. The production of the five principal manufacturing districts of the State was as follows:—Brisbane, 3,954,681 lb.; Toowoomba, 3,457,694 lb.; Ipswich, 2,563,845 lb.; Beaudesert, 1,742,310 lb.; and Warwick, 1,010,713 lb., or an aggregate between them of 12,729,243 lb., equal to 63 per cent. of the total production of the State.

The export of butter has advanced by leaps and bounds during the past two years, as may be seen from the following statement:—

B a.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Quantity (lb.)	1,389,250	2,085,998	552,625	1,223,414	9,520,921	11,773,182
Value	£51,729	£86,171	£24,610	£49,804	£344,943	£455,863

Commencing in 1900, before which date the export was insignificant, 1,389,250 lb. were despatched, followed in 1901 by an advance to a little over 2,000,000, falling in consequence of drought to 552,625 lb. in 1902, rising to double that quantity in 1903, and then jumping to 9,500,000 in the following year, and 11,750,000 in 1905, the value of which was £455,863. The advances made in aid of butter factories under the provisions of the Meat and Dairy Encouragement Act are shown in the following statement:—

B b.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of works to which advances have been made	14	...
Number of works now in operation	7	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	12,366 12 6
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	6,257 0 3
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	5,878 15 1
Including interest due, but not paid ... ..	...	20 6 10
And interest accrued, but not due ... ..	...	397 15 4

Altogether a sum of £12,367 has been lent, of which £6,488 has been repaid, the capital indebtedness to the State at the end of 1905 being £5,879. This fact, combined with the small amount of interest due, which was still unpaid—namely, £20—is satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the industry.

Loans to creameries have been of a less extensive character, but the liabilities incurred have been met in a still more satisfactory manner:—

B c.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	19	...
Number of factories now in operation	3	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	1,909 16 2
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	252 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	321 3 1
Including interest due, but not paid ... ..	...	25 0 0
And interest accrued, but not yet due ... ..	...	Nil

No less than nineteen establishments have been helped to success by the advance of so small a sum as £1,910; all but three of these have paid off their indebtedness, and the amount still unpaid, including interest, is but little in excess of one-sixth of the original sum lent.

CHEESE.—The most marked circumstances in connection with this branch of the dairying industry last year was the reduction of establishments by nearly one-half, a slight decrease in the amount of milk handled, and, at the same time, an increase in the output of cheese.

It becomes necessary to refer back to Table B, where the totals for the two years are as follow:—

	Producers. No.	Milk dealt with. Gallons.	Cheese produced. lb.
1904 ...	47	2,654,471	2,607,475
1905 ...	28	2,626,371	2,682,089

The chief sites of production were Toowoomba, Clifton, and Warwick, ten factories manufacturing 1,732,790 lb. of cheese. The average quantity of milk required to make each lb. of cheese was 0·94 gallons in 1903, 1·02 gallons in 1904, and 0·98 gallons in 1905.

Advances made by the State to assist cheese manufacturing have been as successful in their object as those made to the kindred industries :—

B d.

	Number.	Amount
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	4	...
Number of factories now in operation	1	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	1,525 0 0
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	700 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	548 5 0
Including interest due, but not paid ... ..	...	Nil
And interest accrued, but not due ... ..	...	Nil

Of the four original recipients of loans only one now remains on the Treasury books, and the indebtedness on account of the establishment was £548 only.

PRESERVED MILK.—The concentration of milk for tinning has now become established as a permanent industry ; but, as the establishments engaged in the production are in the hands of less than three proprietaries, it is not permissible, under the recognised covenant to respect the secrecy of individual returns, to make the figures public. There was, however, an increase of output for 1905 as compared with the previous year, whilst from the information available, it is reasonable to anticipate a still further advance in the production of the current year.

This industry has also been assisted under the Meat and Dairy Encouragement Act, as shown by the following statement :—

B e.

	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	2	...
Number of factories now in operation	2	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	2,175 0 0
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	2,175 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1905 ... ..	...	2,336 12 7
Including interest due, but not paid ... ..	...	...
And interest accrued, but not due ... ..	...	259 14 11

The financial position disclosed is hardly so satisfactory as that experienced with the allied industries of butter, cream, and cheese production.

POULTRY.

This industry, which has attained such astounding proportions in some countries, notably the United States, does not appear to progress so rapidly as a few years ago seemed probable. The number declined last year, mainly due to poultry farmers reducing their stocks in consequence of the high price of feed, especially was this the case during the later months of the year. The relative decrease in ducks was very pronounced. Particulars are contained in the following statement :—

B f.

Petty Sessions District.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.	Other.	Eggs.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Doz.
Allora	11,916	146	33	188	...	40,675
Beaudesert	14,885	640	133	648	...	31,350
Brisbane	20,635	1,206	32	76	21	69,420
Bundaberg	17,560	393	36	206	46	52,438
Cairns	14,788	244	44	37	...	72,108
Clifton	20,393	395	59	617	...	39,551
Crow's Nest	13,794	158	268	26	11	24,024
Dalby	14,879	634	124	1,504	...	29,250
Dugandan	29,226	1,416	474	253	20	114,262
Esk	11,875	673	381	1,114	...	62,130
Gatton	40,007	1,522	850	570	...	162,666
Gympie	14,402	716	83	185	42	47,842
Harrisville	18,395	936	219	426	19	62,891
Highfields	18,417	158	103	115	...	63,856
Ipswich	12,635	631	86	88	...	41,487
Laidley	22,371	1,700	1,297	569	6	77,343
Logan	17,674	854	224	18	11	56,362
Mackay	20,548	1,678	187	250	72	50,980
Marburg	16,765	778	557	108	...	56,762
Maroochy	14,061	425	44	71	24	40,621
Nanango	10,614	73	47	181	...	21,820
Nerang	10,557	816	60	40	10	34,374
Redcliffe	12,103	788	158	40	30	39,642
Rockhampton	16,985	993	169	258	29	75,996
Roma	10,786	374	...	591	1	37,968
Rosewood	14,372	489	141	302	...	43,237
Toowoomba	52,786	659	129	1,399	2	157,369
Warwick	29,205	1,057	389	2,972	4	68,667
All other Districts	161,175	8,135	1,215	5,260	507	534,507
Total, 1905	683,809	28,687	7,542	18,112	855	2,209,598
Total, 1904	777,186	48,647	8,092	23,742	1,157	2,580,507
Increase, 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease, 1905	93,377	19,960	550	5,630	302	370,909

The export of frozen poultry has not yet reached very considerable proportions: 10,632 pairs were sent out of the State during 1905, valued at £2,160; of these, 7,475 pairs, worth £1,328, were shipped to the United Kingdom, and 2,277 pairs, worth £572, to the Straits Settlements.

Poultry of all kinds numbered 739,005 against 858,824 in the previous year, a decrease of 119,819 head, or a proportionate decline of 14 per cent. With a decrease of poultry there were, of course, fewer eggs obtained; the number returned was 2,209,598 in 1905, and 2,580,597 in 1904.

APICULTURE.

This industry exhibits great fluctuations; although there are several large apiaries in operation, the production of honey for export has not been systemised in such a manner as to secure regularity of supply. This is the difficulty in connection with so many enterprises in their initial stages. A foreign market after much effort and many disappointments is finally secured, and then the supply frequently collapses from climatic or other causes, or the good quality of the article is not maintained, either through the folly of the original producer or the intrusion of another with less principle, and the demand is killed, and can only then be resuscitated by patient and persistent effort.

Last year the dry weather, which was so pronounced in the spring, resulted in the loss of many hives, and the stocks existing at the end of the year, and the annual output of honey and wax, showed a large diminution on the figures for 1904:—

B g.

District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.	District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.
	Productive.	Non-Productive.					Productive.	Non-Productive.			
			Lb.	Lb.	Lb.				Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Allora ...	65	53	2,912	45	93	Mackay ...	81	28	4,480	55	280
Beaudesert ...	131	27	6,222	48	101	Marburg ...	16	93	575	36	20
Brisbane ...	422	225	13,533	32	370	Maroochy ...	887	232	29,483	33	498
Bundaberg ...	151	172	7,045	47	489	Maryborough ...	184	148	8,555	46	140
Caboolture ...	938	245	37,780	40	540	Nerang ...	724	95	58,704	81	889
Cleveland ...	28	78	792	28	127	Redcliffe ...	120	39	6,250	52	138
Clifton ...	75	29	2,340	31	250	Rockhampton ...	783	142	71,198	91	1,031
Cook ...	257	40	5,921	23	360	Rosewood ...	130	208	6,976	54	162
Crow's Nest ...	512	144	11,254	36	70	South Brisbane ...	514	106	15,610	30	368
Dugandan ...	114	130	1,751	15	92	Tenningering ...	20	88	576	29	...
Eck ...	66	35	1,800	27	59	Tiaro ...	185	34	9,300	50	178
Gatton ...	280	190	7,313	26	83	Toowoomba ...	333	223	19,031	57	418
Gayndah ...	80	360	310	4	20	Townsville ...	90	18	1,300	14	20
Goodna ...	197	49	10,605	54	177	Warwick ...	334	154	44,236	132	510
Gympie ...	535	157	15,308	29	825	Woodford ...	95	69	3,924	41	179
Harrisville ...	208	45	8,250	40	222	All other Districts	493	227	16,011	32	610
Herberton ...	122	1	1,550	13	30						
Highfields ...	108	...	9,458	88	120	Total for 1905 ...	11,029	4,524	559,886	51	12,694
Ipswich ...	172	76	4,450	26	195	Total for 1904 ...	15,598	3,497	783,264	50	15,883
Killarney ...	649	68	65,322	101	1,600						
Laidley ...	152	64	4,375	29	152	Increase for 1905	...	1,027	...	1	...
Logan ...	978	432	45,386	46	1,278	Decrease for 1905	4,569	...	223,378	...	3,189

There were 11,029 productive and 4,524 non-productive hives in the State on 31st December, and the honey and wax obtained during the year amounted to 559,886 lb. and 12,694 lb. respectively, so that there was a decrease of 19 per cent. in hives, 29 per cent. in honey, and 20 per cent. in wax. The following table furnishes information as to honey exported during each of the past four years:—

B h.

HONEY EXPORTED.

Country.	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
United Kingdom ...	224	2	648	5	15,730	143	6,116	40
Australasia ...	208,504	2,398	140,011	1,556	346,032	3,509	184,628	1,967
Elsewhere ...	7,560	74	346	13	2,937	42	11,464	97
Total ...	216,288	2,474	141,005	1,574	364,699	3,694	202,208	2,104

The quantity of honey shipped to the United Kingdom was very small.

IMPORT OF PRODUCTS OF AGRICULTURE.

A consideration of this subject affords valuable food for reflection. Whilst it is quite understandable that in time of drought many agricultural products must of necessity be imported, why, in favourable seasons in a country so eminently adapted for agriculture as Queensland is, we should introduce products of the soil to the value of nearly £2 per head of the population is not so easily explained.

Information on this question for each of the past five years is appended:—

C.

Value of—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Grain, &c., and various Products thereof	457,044	846,621	829,232	380,627	394,463
Fruit, and various Products thereof	160,413	186,521	} 318,667	221,582	351,840
Vegetables, Fresh and Preserved	124,296	203,640			
Other Products of Agriculture	170,388	628,531	403,632	210,701	222,699
Total	912,141	1,865,313	1,551,531	812,910	969,002

Upwards of three-eighths of the import of these commodities comprised grain and products thereof, whilst an approximately similar value was represented by fruits and vegetables.

The summaries of imports and exports contained in the following table furnishes interesting information in connection with agricultural production:—

C a.

WHERE IMPORTS EXCEED EXPORTS.

PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF FOODSTUFFS.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		NET IMPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Barley (Pearl)	41,436 lb.	225	...	...	41,436 lb.	225
Biscuits	710,788 „	22,766	161,738 lb.	2,431	549,050 „	20,335
Coffee (all kinds)	219,315 „	7,284	37,899 „	1,505	181,416 „	5,779
Flour	486,556 centals	199,262	75,330 centals	29,759	411,226 centals	169,503
Hay and Chaff	211,760 cwt.	25,953	33,890 cwt.	3,413	177,870 cwt.	22,540
Maizena and Cornflour	179,498 lb.	1,980	6,934 lb.	75	172,564 lb.	1,905
Malt	31,665 centals	24,449	3,314 centals	1,993	28,351 centals	22,456
Milk and Cream (Preserved)... ..	1,281,823 lb.	23,407	301,547 lb.	5,628	980,276 lb.	17,779
Oatmeal	3,201,448 „	22,328	4,640 „	41	3,196,808 „	22,287
Oats	50,184 centals	14,374	4,003 centals	961	46,181 centals	13,413
Onions	62,495 cwt.	32,627	614 cwt.	374	61,881 cwt.	32,253
Potatoes	293,443 „	97,708	5,764 „	2,219	287,679 „	95,489
Preserves	5,209,102 lb.	66,880	243,543 lb.	3,281	4,965,559 lb.	63,599
Rice	91,404 centals	46,636	978 centals	404	90,426 centals	46,232
Total Values ... ..	...	585,879	...	52,084	...	533,795

WHERE EXPORTS EXCEED IMPORTS.

PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF FOODSTUFFS.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		NET EXPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Arrowroot	2,240 lb.	12	597,325 lb.	5,439	595,085 lb.	5,427
Bacon and Hams	42,490 „	1,120	4,360,541 „	99,267	4,318,051 „	98,147
Barley	1,756 centals	591	93,540 centals	22,179	91,784 centals	21,588
Butter	21,408 lb.	778	11,773,182 lb.	455,863	11,751,774 lb.	455,085
Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs ... ..	...	313,630	...	893,184	...	579,554
Cheese	28,369 lb.	986	605,059 lb.	15,332	576,690 lb.	14,346
Eggs	7,833 doz.	282	421,534 doz.	10,704	413,701 doz.	10,422
Fruit and Vegetables ... ..	...	143,583	...	222,216	...	78,633
Honey	6,466 lb.	73	202,208 lb.	2,104	195,742 lb.	2,031
Lard and Refined Animal Fats	34,763 „	549	1,354,611 „	22,404	1,319,848 „	21,855
Maize	43,387 centals	10,929	108,130 centals	31,824	64,743 centals	20,895
Meat (all kinds, including Extract) ... ..	...	10,297	...	743,426	...	733,129
Molasses	94 cwt.	112	18,875 cwt.	12,277	18,781 cwt.	12,165
Oysters ... ..	...	...	33,696 „	17,530	33,696 „	17,530
Sugar	2,400 cwt.	2,190	2,468,347 „	1,448,885	2,465,947 „	1,446,695
Wheat	68,343 centals	20,195	175,540 centals	48,248	107,197 centals	28,053
Total Values ... ..	...	505,327	...	4,050,882	...	3,545,555

It is useful to note, though scarcely satisfactory, that 411,226 centals of flour, 3,196,808 lb. of oatmeal, 287,679 cwt. of potatoes, and 4,965,559 lb. of preserves were imported in excess of exports, and that on these four items alone £350,878 left the State; although, of course, the reverse of the medal, as shown in the second half of the table under the heads "Sugar," "Meat," "Live Stock," and "Butter," affords consolatory reading.

LABOUR AND MACHINERY ON FARMS.

There was a very substantial increase in the numbers engaged in the agricultural industry during 1905, especially in connection with the dairying branch. This may be seen from the following table:—

C b.

DISTRICT.	LABOUR.				VALUE OF MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS.			
	Farming.		Dairying.		Farming.	Dairying.	Irrigation.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	£	£	£	£
Allora	309	15	182	296	25,584	2,751	360	28,695
Ayr	886	18	31	2	10,290	343	21,283	31,916
Beaudesert	349	2	301	239	9,214	5,589	280	15,083
Brisbane	885	18	162	120	9,880	2,801	170	12,851.
Bundaberg	2,797	18	85	101	38,987	3,469	49,587	92,043
Cairns	1,586	54	8	1	9,639	159	480	10,278
Childers	1,364	5	17	44	12,800	663	80	13,543
Clifton	777	91	227	180	46,770	2,420	...	49,190
Dalby	691	12	110	61	30,682	3,200	...	33,882
Dugandan	660	70	455	363	14,438	6,306	...	20,744
Gatton	1,337	222	461	375	37,238	11,153	550	48,941
Gympie	444	38	201	117	12,113	3,452	587	16,152
Harrisville	587	35	507	275	11,698	6,526	105	18,329
Highfields	700	111	329	377	14,638	5,607	...	20,245
Ingham	1,213	6	1	4	11,878	40	120	12,038
Killarney	384	...	38	40	21,667	1,650	25	23,342
Laidley	891	250	296	366	24,365	6,683	...	31,048
Logan	922	59	35	286	8,320	3,312	100	11,732
Mackay	3,206	96	55	61	41,639	967	698	43,304
Marburg	429	65	118	311	11,474	3,984	...	15,458
Maroochy	845	13	99	156	5,191	1,708	120	7,019
Mourilyan	1,309	27	...	...	6,019	...	...	6,019
Redcliffe	386	2	33	285	10,572	4,363	150	15,085
Rockhampton	482	56	316	164	13,899	4,774	2,273	20,946
Roma	535	123	12	91	34,816	947	17	35,780
Toowoomba	1,770	133	437	521	90,813	10,654	313	101,780
Warwick	981	17	290	169	65,308	4,705	780	70,793
All other Districts	8,619	434	1,951	2,080	152,221	48,703	20,853	221,777
Total 1905	35,344	1,990	6,757	7,085	782,153	146,929	98,931	1,028,013
Total 1904	33,957	1,992	5,007	5,930	744,441	124,309	100,859	969,069
Increase in 1905	1,387	...	1,750	1,155	37,712	22,620	...	58,944
Decrease in 1905 ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	1,928	...

There were 37,334 employed in general farming last year, against 35,949 in 1904, or an increase of 1,385. Of the former, 35,344 were males and 1,990 females, the latter numbering 2 less than in the previous year, when 1,992 were returned. In dairying, during 1905, 6,757 males and 7,085 females were occupied against 5,007 and 5,930 in 1904—numerical increases in the former year of 1,750 and 1,155 and proportionate increases of 35 and 19 per cent. each respectively—so that in this industry at least women are not increasing their already preponderating representation.

Of the eight districts giving employment to the largest number of persons, sugar areas take all but the third and fourth places, namely:—Mackay, 3,418; Bundaberg, 3,001; Cairns, 1,649; Childers, 1,430; Mourilyan, 1,336; Ingham, 1,224. The grain and dairying districts of Toowoomba and Gatton employed 2,861 and 2,395 respectively.

Machinery increased in value by £58,944, made up of farming £37,712, dairying £22,620, and a decrease in irrigation plant of £1,928. The total value of machinery and implements on farms last year was £1,028,013, consisting of farming £782,153, dairying £146,929, and irrigation £98,931.

FORESTRY.

It has always appeared to me that this subject comes quite legitimately within the sphere of agricultural statistics, although at the first glance it might appear as somewhat extraneous. No system of forestry is scientific or complete in which husbandry fails to form a conspicuous part; moreover, although disputed by some, many people are strongly of opinion that the absence or existence of forests has a marked effect on the climatic conditions of the locality, and, therefore, from this cause the question is one of deep import to the agricultural interest. Amongst those holding the latter opinion may be claimed so high an authority as Mr. Maiden, the Government Botanist of New South Wales, who recently expressed the opinion that if her forest were not conserved New South Wales would ultimately become a desert. In New Zealand, prison labour has been employed in forestry; and, as the work is not of a directly competitive character, it hardly appears open to objection, as might be the case with more immediately remunerative undertakings. The recent appointment of an officer to take charge of the Department of Forests, unhampered by other official duties, should imply a more extended interest in the question, and recently the reforestation of some of our denuded Northern scrubs with young cedars has been taken in hand.

AGRICULTURE PROPER.

Once again the later months of the year failed to fulfil the expectations raised by the experience of the earlier ones, a very dry spring resulting in most unsatisfactory returns respecting farming interests. Frost did much mischief to the fruit, especially in the important districts of Roma and Stanthorpe; whilst

hail destroyed both wheat and fruit, heavy storms being experienced at Inglewood, Laidley, Roma, and Warwick. Owing to the absence of rain, wheat was a failure throughout the whole of the Maranoa, whilst a number of selectors on the Upper Burnett from the same cause suspended cultivation and sought work for the time elsewhere. Fruit fly and grasshoppers were also reported as having worked much havoc.

Sugar, at present the chief staple of Queensland, fortunately yielded very satisfactory results, and by the importance of its contribution to agricultural production, in a measure, counterbalanced the poorer yields of other crops, whilst tobacco gave the best return hitherto recorded for that crop. A slight revival in cotton cultivation was also exhibited, and great hopes are held by some that with improved varieties and the changed condition as to price, together with the value now attached to the seed, that this product will again take a prominent place in agriculture here. If a mechanical contrivance for picking were invented, the position would indeed be hopeful, but the prospect of success with the payment of wages for handpicking has not yet been assuringly demonstrated.

The most satisfactory circumstance in connection with agriculture is the continuous increase in the area of farming land taken up. The acreage of Crown lands selected as agricultural farms and homesteads and as unconditional selections for each of the past five years was as follows:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Acres ...	349,638	302,555	223,512	224,555	362,246

The areas under cultivation and under crop for each of the years 1901-1905 were as under:—

	1901. Acres.	1902. Acres.	1903. Acres.	1904. Acres.	1905. Acres.
Under cultivation	507,317	478,121	621,693	577,896	622,987
Under crop	483,460	275,383	566,589	539,216	522,748

The area under cultivation was the largest ever recorded; but the area under crop was less than in either 1904 or 1903, as, with considerable acreages of land sown with grain, the seed failed to germinate, and, following the usual practice, these were tabulated as fallow land.

SIZE OF CULTIVATED AREAS.

Information on this subject is furnished in the following table:—

C c.

Petty Sessions District.	ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION.									
	Under 5 Acres.		5 and under 20 Acres.		20 and under 50 Acres.		50 Acres and Over.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.
Allora ...	5	12	6	49	46	1,504	177	25,568	234	27,133
Ayr ...	5	12	20	237	21	745	31	6,353	77	7,347
B-audesert ...	33	95	175	2,028	96	2,748	8	694	312	5,565
Biggenden ...	15	43	82	974	58	1,687	3	232	158	2,936
Bowen ...	20	66	79	826	64	2,070	18	1,315	181	4,277
Brisbane ...	183	514	320	3,131	47	1,316	2	214	552	5,175
Bundaberg ...	49	132	175	2,005	177	5,522	100	19,489	501	27,148
Cairns ...	29	93	124	1,344	51	1,648	72	12,349	276	15,434
Childers ...	13	40	65	731	95	3,103	113	12,448	286	16,322
Clifton ...	...	...	10	126	47	1,695	329	43,589	386	45,410
Crow's Nest ...	19	60	152	1,909	157	4,805	28	1,901	356	8,675
Dalby ...	14	34	107	1,203	117	3,641	143	21,510	381	26,388
Douglas ...	7	15	29	351	31	1,004	57	6,718	124	8,088
Dugandan ...	4	9	124	1,621	245	7,667	18	1,113	391	10,400
Esk ...	32	94	108	1,053	69	1,816	20	1,160	229	4,123
Gatton ...	31	79	291	3,912	361	12,291	95	6,647	778	22,929
Gin Gin ...	4	12	51	642	76	2,373	49	3,819	180	6,846
Gympie ...	63	182	148	1,589	58	1,835	14	875	283	4,481
Harrisville ...	18	45	125	1,666	143	4,604	22	1,628	308	7,943
Herberton ...	38	99	35	358	39	1,265	55	5,293	167	7,015
Highfields ...	19	54	137	1,729	205	6,694	75	6,081	436	14,558
Inglewood ...	15	44	53	550	18	542	10	977	96	2,113
Ingham ...	8	20	13	203	33	1,073	100	14,816	154	16,112
Ipswich ...	50	137	124	1,358	72	1,994	8	833	254	4,322
Killarney ...	17	45	35	367	53	1,619	119	14,415	224	16,446
Laidley ...	16	39	119	1,661	336	10,758	83	5,913	554	18,371
Logan ...	109	328	298	3,590	71	1,865	1	71	479	5,854
Mackay ...	99	253	381	4,264	373	11,787	144	14,876	997	31,180
Marburg ...	25	71	73	933	199	5,849	21	1,457	318	8,310
Maroochy ...	191	479	327	3,306	73	2,057	6	450	597	6,292
Maryborough ...	129	242	247	1,895	66	1,359	4	260	446	3,756
Mitchell ...	2	4	7	96	15	448	44	8,339	68	8,887
Mourilyan ...	7	13	50	713	69	2,035	56	9,187	182	11,948
Nanango ...	36	112	140	1,610	98	3,058	27	2,154	301	6,934
Nerang ...	46	143	95	964	69	1,968	14	1,029	224	4,104
Redcliffe ...	69	197	164	1,787	49	1,288	4	246	286	3,518
Rockhampton ...	111	292	156	1,611	57	1,544	7	503	331	3,950
Roma ...	8	23	25	335	93	2,951	272	37,036	398	40,345
Rosewood ...	11	26	132	1,705	148	4,482	14	828	305	7,041
South Brisbane ...	75	217	122	1,228	29	786	2	139	228	2,370
Tiaro ...	55	120	103	1,349	79	2,320	8	668	245	4,457
Toowoomba ...	265	525	332	3,595	320	10,677	485	59,116	1,402	73,913
Warwick ...	23	58	87	886	168	5,243	331	35,532	609	41,719
Yeulba ...	...	...	3	33	9	330	20	2,189	32	2,552
Other Districts ...	616	1,523	689	6,726	225	6,294	58	5,747	1,598	20,300
Totals, 1905 ...	2,584	6,601	6,138	68,249	4,925	152,360	3,267	395,777	16,914	622,987
„ 1904 ...	2,534	6,570	5,857	64,613	5,025	154,416	3,047	352,297	16,463	577,896
Increase, 1905 ...	50	31	281	3,636	...	...	220	43,480	451	45,091
Decrease, 1905 ...	...	...	...	...	100	2,056	...	...	...	...

This table represents the actual area cultivated on the individual farm, without any reference to the size of the farm, and, except so far as there is duplication by the same person owning more than one farm, represents individual proprietary cultivators of the soil, so that for practical purposes it may be assumed that there were 16,914 persons engaged on their own account in general farming operations, cultivating between them 622,987 acres, or an average of 36·8 acres each. Only 3,267 cultivators, or 19 per cent. of the total, cultivated upwards of 50 acres having between them 395,777 acres, or 64 per cent., of the total area cultivated, an average of 121 acres each.

IRRIGATION.

Although, as is invariably the case when the droughty conditions pass and the need for water is no longer pressing, there has been no increase in the efforts to provide irrigation, yet most of those who have adopted this aid to cultivation have been sufficiently impressed with its advantages not to quickly dispense with it. The area treated with the artificial application of water was in 1905 slightly in excess of that of the previous year, although less by some 700 to 1,000 acres than in 1902 and 1903. The acreage cultivated with the aid of irrigation for each of the past ten years was as follows:—

D.

Year.					Acres Irrigated.	Year.					Acres Irrigated.
1896	...	...	...	...	6,395	1901	...	...	...	...	6,526
1897	...	...	...	...	5,647	1902	...	...	...	...	14,344
1898	...	...	...	...	9,648	1903	...	...	...	...	14,786
1899	...	...	...	...	6,311	1904	...	...	...	...	13,360
1900	...	...	...	...	6,969	1905	...	...	...	...	13,693

Several new plants for the artificial conservation and distribution of water to arable land appeared on the returns last year. In a few instances it was reported that plants already existing were not utilised during that period, some because they were not needed, and in one or two cases because water was not available just at the time that it was required. Full particulars as to the use made of irrigation during 1905 are contained in the following table:—

D a.

IRRIGATION.

District.			Number of Irrigators.	Acres Irrigated.	Original Source of Water Supply.	Means Employed for Procurement and Utilisation.	Crops Treated.
Allora	...	...	1	120	Dalrymple Creek	Steam pumps, gravitation	Wheat, vegetables, orchard
Ayr	...	...	35	4,678	Lagoons, Burdekin River	do.	Sugar-cane, potatoes
Barcaldine	...	...	19	278	Bore	Drains	Mostly market gardens
Bowen	...	...	46	278	Wells, creek, and river	Steam pumps, windmills, &c.	Mostly fruits
Brisbane	...	...	16	66	Creeks and wells	Pumps, windmills, &c.	Mostly vegetables
Bundaberg	...	...	13	5,854	River and wells	Steam pumps, windmills, &c.	Sugar-cane and fruit
Charters Towers	...	...	17	58	Various	Windmills, &c.	Mostly market gardens
Cunnamulla	...	...	1	55	Bore	Drains...	Wheat for hay
Gatton	...	...	5	203	Creeks and wells	Steam pumps, windmills, &c.	Oats, potatoes, lucerne, fruit
Hungerford	...	...	1	70	Bore	Drains...	Wheat for hay
Ingham	...	...	2	206	River	Steam pumps	Sugar-cane
Laidley	...	...	1	50	Creek	Steam pump...	Lucerne, corn, potatoes
Mackay	...	...	5	125	River and creeks	Steam pumps, windmill	Sugar-cane and fruit
Maryborough	...	...	8	47	Artesian wells	Hot air engines, &c.	Fruit
Rockhampton	...	...	26	400	Wells, river, creeks, &c.	Oil and steam engines, horse pumps, &c.	All crops mostly mixed gardens
Townsville	...	...	44	395	do.	do.	do.
Warwick	...	...	6	94	Creeks	Steam pumps, windmills	Market gardens, lucerne
All other Districts (48)	...	...	146	716	Various	Various	Largely market gardens
Total	...	...	392	13,693			

From this it will be seen that 392 persons irrigated 13,693 acres. Of these, 13 at Bundaberg watered 5,884 acres and 35 at Ayr 4,678 acres, these two districts thus embracing 77 per cent. of the total area.

GRAIN CROPS.

The dry weather, which in 1905 prevailed during winter and spring, adversely affected wheat, and proved almost equally disastrous to all grain crops. In the case of barley and oats, which are chiefly cultivated in the same localities as wheat, the results were as seriously affected; but, with regard to maize, which is grown over a much wider range of country, and generally admits of two plantings each year, only the second planting, harvested at the latter end of the year, was stricken by the drought and heat wave.

WHEAT.

The experiences of the wheat campaign last year were most unfortunate, and well illustrated the advisableness of providing for a systematic system of irrigation.

The promise of the earlier months of 1905 was not fulfilled, for when the time for sowing arrived dry weather prevailed. Farmers, induced by the satisfactory harvests of the two immediately preceding years, placed a larger area under wheat than in 1904, or, indeed, than in any previous year. Much of the seed, however, through want of sufficient moisture, failed to germinate, and consequently this acreage was not counted as area under wheat, but classed as fallow land. Again, a proportion at an early stage of growth afforded such little prospect of a satisfactory return, either as hay or grain, that it was utilised for grazing stock, to be thus converted into milk or meat, and these areas, although sown with wheat, appear under the category of green forage crops, and to that extent reduce the area that originally was intended to produce the cereal.

There were approximately 177,000 acres sown with wheat in 1905, of which 40,000 failed completely, 15,000 were cut or grazed as green forage, and 3,000 acres were converted into hay, leaving 119,000 acres, or 67 per cent. of the area sown, to be reaped. The exact areas reaped in 1903, 1904, and 1905 were 138,096 acres, 150,958 acres, and 119,356 acres respectively, the figures for the first two years being in excess of those for 1905.

It is much to be regretted that, owing either to apathy or to direct antagonism on the part of farmers, attempts to obtain advance estimates of wheat and other crops have proved abortive. In my last report I stated that "unless some concerted action promising support is made by representative associations, I shall not feel justified, in future years, in recommending the expenditure necessary to secure an advance estimate." As only one such association, and that one representing only a comparatively small proportion of the wheat area, afforded me any promise of support in the matter, I did not feel justified in attempting to secure data for an advance estimate for the 1905 crop.

Notwithstanding pessimistic views indulged in by some, the future of the grain industry in Queensland is assured, and although the unsatisfactory results of the last dry season, combined with the attractions of dairying, may retard progress, Queensland must, in the near future, become a grain-producing country, especially of wheat, largely in excess of home requirements, when it will be imperative that the present outside control with respect to freights and conditions of shipment be removed, or so far modified as to secure equitable treatment for the producers of this State.

The following table compares the wheat crops for each year of the last decade:—

E.
WHEAT (GRAIN) RETURNS.
RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1896	34,164	598,052	17·51	506	3,202	6·33	34,670	601,254	17·34
1897	33,856	632,883	18·69	23,932	376,410	15·73	57,788	1,009,293	17·47
1898	43,342	573,000	13·22	2,877	34,012	11·82	46,219	607,012	13·13
1899	46,917	550,702	11·74	5,610	63,712	11·36	52,527	614,414	11·70
1900	79,227	1,193,193	15·06	77	895	11·62	79,304	1,194,088	15·06
1901	77,162	1,516,779	19·66	10,070	175,443	17·42	87,232	1,692,222	19·40
1902	1,875	6,122	3·27	5	43	8·60	1,880	6,165	3·28
1903	102,062	1,926,712	18·88	36,034	510,087	14·16	138,096	2,436,799	17·65
1904	145,948	2,090,947	14·33	5,010	58,716	11·71	150,958	2,149,663	14·24
1905	119,141	1,135,410	9·53	215	1,911	8·89	119,356	1,137,321	9·53
Average of Ten Years	68,369	1,022,380	14·95	8,434	122,443	14·52	76,803	1,144,823	14·91

In 1905 the 119,356 acres reaped yielded 1,137,321 bushels of grain, or an average return of 9·53 bushels to each acre. The corresponding figures for 1904, the best year of the decennium as to the acreage reaped, and for 1903, the best year for both total and average produce, were—1904, 150,958 acres, 2,149,663 bushels; average, 14·24: 1903, 138,096 acres, 2,436,799 bushels; average, 17·65. Rust was but little in evidence last year, and, with respect to this pest, it is interesting to note that on several occasions during the past ten years, in the seasons in which rust was most prevalent, the general results from the areas reaped have been the most satisfactory. From the foregoing table it may be seen that the largest rust-affected areas were returned in 1903, 1897, and 1901, when average yields for the total acreages were 17·65, 17·47, and 19·40, and for the infected areas 14·16, 15·73, and 17·42 each respectively.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the existence of rust has been largely reduced in recent years, mainly by seed selection, and the heavy losses in the yield of grain that used to be consequent on a visitation are now practically done away with; nor is the quality of the grain so much deteriorated as was the case in the early history of the crop in Queensland.

Fuller details respecting the cereal is furnished in the following table:—

E a.

Divisions and Petty Sessions Districts.	RESULTS.								
	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Total Extent of Land Reaped for Grain.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
BURNETT AND WIDE BAY.									
Biggenden	1	16	16·00	...	...	...	1	16	16·00
Gayndah	1	7	7·00	...	...	...	1	7	7·00
Nanango	1,029	10,042	9·76	60	600	10·00	1,089	10,642	9·77
Tiaro	1	20	20·00	...	...	...	1	20	20·00
Total, Burnett and Wide Bay ...	1,032	10,085	9·77	60	600	10·00	1,092	10,685	9·78
MORETON.									
Crow's Nest	379	5,292	13·96	...	...	...	379	5,292	13·96
Dugandan	3	52	17·33	...	...	...	3	52	17·33
Gatton	4	94	23·50	...	...	...	4	94	23·50
Total, Moreton	386	5,438	14·09	...	...	...	386	5,438	14·09
DOWNS.									
Allora	11,226	170,767	15·21	15	140	9·33	11,241	170,907	15·20
Clifton	20,639	200,421	9·71	...	...	...	20,639	200,421	9·71
Condamine	5	40	8·00	...	...	...	5	40	8·00
Dalby	9,102	44,238	4·86	...	...	...	9,102	44,238	4·86
Goondiwindi	134	1,007	7·51	...	...	...	134	1,007	7·51
Highfields	2,010	14,978	7·45	60	851	14·18	2,070	15,829	7·65
Inglewood	609	7,190	11·81	...	...	...	609	7,190	11·81
Killarney	9,277	151,061	16·28	...	...	...	9,277	151,061	16·28
Stanthorpe	34	410	12·06	...	...	...	34	410	12·06
Texas	100	649	6·49	...	...	...	100	649	6·49
Toowoomba	15,275	139,586	9·14	80	320	4·00	15,355	139,906	9·11
Warwick	22,112	316,847	14·33	...	...	...	22,112	316,847	14·33
Total Downs	90,523	1,047,194	11·57	155	1,311	8·46	90,678	1,048,505	11·56
MARANOA.									
Mitchell	5,180	13,361	2·58	...	...	...	5,180	13,361	2·58
Roma	20,637	55,475	2·69	...	...	...	20,637	55,475	2·69
St. George	30	252	8·40	...	...	...	30	252	8·40
Surat	30	152	5·07	...	...	...	30	152	5·07
Yeulba	1,269	2,813	2·22	...	...	...	1,269	2,813	2·22
Total, Maranoa	27,146	72,053	2·65	...	...	...	27,146	72,053	2·65
OTHER DISTRICTS.									
Barcaldine	54	640	11·85	...	...	...	54	640	11·85
Total, Other Districts	54	640	11·85	...	...	...	54	640	11·85
Total, State	119,141	1,135,410	9·53	215	1,911	8·89	119,356	1,137,321	9·53

The districts in the Downs division provide 90,678 acres and 1,048,505 bushels, or 76 per cent. and 92 per cent. respectively of the total area reaped and yield obtained; whilst those in the Maranoa division returned 27,146 acres and 72,053 bushels, or 23 per cent. and 6 per cent. respectively; so these two divisions practically comprise the wheat-producing areas of the State. The average yields obtained in these two divisions varied greatly, for whilst the Downs returned an average of 11·56 bushels for each acre, the Maranoa crop was only equal to 2·65 bushels. The latter most unsatisfactory return from so relatively large an area operated very seriously upon the total average of the State. The five petty sessions districts comprising this division gave averages as follow:—St. George, 8·40 bushels; Surat, 5·07 bushels; Roma, 2·69 bushels; Mitchell, 2·58 bushels; and Yeulba, 2·22 bushels. Roma provided the great bulk, both of area and production, of the Maranoa crop.

In the Downs division, Killarney was the district giving the most satisfactory results; from 9,277 acres 151,061 bushels were obtained, or the fair average of 16·28 bushels to each acre. The contiguous districts of Allora and Clifton differed very considerably in results, the figures being 11,241 acres, 170,907 bushels; average, 15·20 bushels: and 20,639 acres, 200,421 bushels; average, 9·71 respectively. The Warwick area of 22,112 acres furnished 316,847 bushels, equal to 14·33 bushels. The fairly satisfactory returns obtained at Killarney, Allora, and Warwick were heavily discounted by indifferent returns from the important districts of Toowoomba and Clifton, and very poor crops from several minor districts.

The 1,500 acres placed under wheat in districts outside the Downs and Maranoa divisions, although distributed over a wide range of country, were more restricted than in some previous years. In the Southern portion of the State none was found further west than St. George; the weather conditions during 1905 totally precluding any attempt at cereal culture on the Warrego, where, on occasions, small areas have been grown. Nearer the coast, small acreages were returned from West Moreton and from the Upper Burnett. From 4 acres at Gatton, 94 bushels were obtained, but 1,089 acres at Nanango only returned 10,642 bushels, or rather less than 10 bushels to each acre. In previous years, in the Central

great division of the State, the cultivation of this cereal was initiated. The intention was to irrigate with artesian bore water, and substantial experimental areas were sown at Barcaldine, with fair results, and the extension of the wheat line eastward round Emerald and Springsure was definitely predicted. The Burnett was an area that, during 1903 and 1904, was big with a promised large production of this cereal, but apparently the greater charms of dairying have, up to the present, operated adversely.

So much was expected from the results of the 1905 season, hopes having been raised by the very satisfactory return obtained in 1903, and the good crop of the following year, that the—for Queensland—low average yield of 9·53 bushels in 1905 proved most disappointing. When some of our farmers, however, talk of abandoning wheat-growing, it is well to remind them that, except as regards Tasmania, this State stands first in the average returns per acre for this cereal. Taken over a period of ten years, the yield for the six States are as follow:—Tasmania, 20 bushels; Queensland, 16 bushels; Western Australia, 11 bushels; New South Wales, 10 bushels; Victoria, 7 bushels; and South Australia, under 5 bushels. It will therefore be seen that the Queensland 1905 crop was double that of the decennial average of South Australia, and approximated very closely to the decennial averages of Western Australia and New South Wales, and considerably exceeded that for Victoria.

It has already been pointed out that the very low returns from the specially drought-visited areas of the West operated so severely against the average of the whole crop. In this connection it is well to note what is being done elsewhere. Much attention is being devoted in the United States to the production of a drought-resisting wheat, and very satisfactory experiments have been conducted. This class of grain, known as the Macaroni Wheat, will thrive with a minimum of moisture. The exception taken to them is that they are a hard milling wheat, and, some say, not suited for a bread flour, although the latter has been disputed with some authority. In any case, such success has attended the efforts made in Queensland to produce a rust-resisting variety of grain that encouragement might be taken to experiment in the direction of evolving a type of wheat that shall not require a larger quantity of moisture than may be, in normal seasons, looked for within the present wheat line. If this were successfully accomplished, then the area in this State that would be available would be practically illimitable.

CONSUMPTION AND EXPORT.

Export can only be a matter of experiment until the demands of the home market have been fully and consistently met. The consumption of wheat in this State for all purposes approximates 3,500,000 bushels, so that even the record crop of 1903 of 2,436,799 bushels fell 1,000,000 bushels below home requirements, whilst the production for last year was equal to just one-third of our own needs.

The following figures give the net imports for 1905:—

E b. BREADSTUFFS.

ITEM.	IMPORTED.		EXPORTED.		NET IMPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Wheat (centals)	68,343	20,195	175,540	48,248	*107,197	*28,053
Flour (centals)	486,556	199,262	75,330	29,759	411,226	169,503
Biscuits (lb.)	710,788	22,766	161,738	2,431	549,050	20,335
Total ... ..	...	242,223	...	80,438	...	161,785

* Excess of Exports.

With the crop for 1902 a complete failure, a heavy import for the following year was inevitable, and in 1903 something like £500,000 in excess of the amount required in the two subsequent years had to be found for the purchase of foreign breadstuffs. The net imports for the past three years are given in the following table:—

E c.

—			1903.		1904.		1905.	
			£		£		£	
Wheat	...	...	603,294 centals	= 218,059	*131,388 centals	= *36,857	*107,197 centals	= *28,053
Flour	...	...	704,893	" = 393,571	536,210	" = 216,359	411,226	" = 169,503
Biscuits	...	...	464,446 lb.	= 16,447	417,474 lb.	= 16,248	549,050 lb.	= 20,335
			628,077		195,750		161,785	

* Excess of Exports.

Whilst the question of export is not immediately a pressing one, it is well that it should be borne in mind, as given a few favourable seasons, with the great increased agricultural settlement that is proceeding, a search for foreign markets would speedily become an imperative necessity.

The United Kingdom, of course, at once suggests itself as an outlet, and experimental consignments have shown the feasibility of transporting grain to Britain at a profit, Queensland's product being considered by experts well adapted for the milling trade. Nearer markets, however, suggest themselves, and in view of the effort now being made to develop what is known as the "Eastern" trade, the following records of imports into Japan, &c., may not be without interest:—

Japan—flour, 2,880,873 centals	£1,101,173
China—flour	378,681
Straits Settlements—wheat, 501,980 cwt.	269,472
Ceylon—grain (not rice), including flour	162,416

The following table gives the demand for wheat and its products in this State for each of the past five years:—

Ed.

IMPORTS IN EXCESS OF EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR, THE LATTER CONVERTED INTO TERMS OF THE FORMER.

Year.								Imported over Exported.	Grown in Queensland.	Total.
								Net Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,820,240	1,692,222	3,512,462
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,957,205	6,165	1,963,370
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,767,723	2,436,799	5,204,522
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,121,545	2,149,663	3,271,208
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	849,403	1,137,321	1,986,724

NOTE.—For the purposes of this Statement the flour imported has been converted into wheat on the basis of 1 cental of flour = $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat.

From these figures it has been calculated that during the last quinquennium the consumption of wheat has been equal to rather less than 6·5 bushels per head, which is about the same as for the other States of the Commonwealth.

FLOUR-MILLS.

It is satisfactory to note an increase in the output of the flour-milling industry, although the number of mills in operation shows a diminution. These were three fewer in 1905 than in the previous year, the mills at Dalby and Rockhampton not working, and one at Roma, unfortunately, destroyed by fire at the latter end of 1904, particulars respecting the sixteen establishments working in 1905 being shown in the following table:—

E e.

District.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands Employed.	Number of Stones.	Number of Rollers.	Wheat Treated.	FLOUR MADE.		MEAL MADE.		BRAN AND POLLARD.	
						Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Bushels.	Value.
Metropolitan	7	118	Pairs. 9	Sets. 72	1,112,338	22,116	£ 177,712	90	£ 742	1,167,672	36,317
Toowoomba	3	30	... 3	35	326,929	6,378	50,473	22	173	309,217	11,855
Elsewhere	6	57	7	55	446,141	8,806	67,297	93	757	423,443	18,519
Total, 1905	16	205	16	162	1,885,408	37,300	295,482	205	1,672	1,900,332	66,691
„ 1904	19	201	18	156	1,729,637	34,034	263,374	177	1,522	1,673,899	42,155

At some of the above establishments but little wheat is treated, such factories being principally devoted to treating other grain, consequently particulars as to hands and factory do not exactly match with the output. Information respecting Grain Mills will be found in Part VIII. of the Statistical Register.

Information is not furnished as to the extent to which imported wheat finds its way to the mill, but it can be a fractional quantity only. The imports altogether amounted to only some 114,000 bushels, and the demands for seed would have been approximately from 150,000 to 160,000 bushels, a portion of which was no doubt provided from the imported article, so that the 1,885,408 bushels gristed was practically all local wheat.

The average yield of flour to wheat was practically the same in 1905 as in 1904, the figures for each of the last three years being—1903, 49.2 bushels; 1904 and 1905, 50.6 bushels.

In connection with loans to mills under "The Vote for Loans in aid of Co-operative Agricultural Production," it is satisfactory to note a substantial improvement in the financial position of these establishments, for whereas the indebtedness was £3,376 13s. 5d. at the end of 1904, on the 31st December last it amounted to £1,799 14s. 2d. only. The following are the particulars for 1905:—

Number of mills to which advances were made	...	...	...	...	...	2
				£	s.	d.
Amount advanced to 31st December, 1905	...	...	...	3,442	0	0
Indebtedness to 31st December, 1905, including interest	...	...	...	1,799	14	2
Included in above interest due, but not paid	...	...	...	69	4	3
Balance owing on account principal	...	...	...	1,730	9	11

The dry weather, which in 1905 so adversely affected wheat, proved almost equally disastrous to all grain crops. In the case of barley and oats, which are chiefly cultivated in the same localities as wheat, the results were as seriously affected; but, with regard to maize, which is grown over a much wider range of country, and generally admits of two plantings each year, only the second planting, harvested at the latter end of the year, was stricken by the drought and heat wave.

BARLEY.

Approximately 18,000 acres were sown last year with this cereal, of which some 3,600 acres failed to germinate and were recorded as fallow. The area sown was, however, at least 4,000 acres below that for 1904. The following table furnishes information as to the disposal of the remaining 14,477 acres:—

F.

										1904.	1905.
										Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,887	5,201
Mown for hay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	443	205
Used for green food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,517	9,071
										22,347	14,477

From this it will be seen that only 5,201 acres were reaped for grain, less than one-third of the area thus available in 1904, when the produce of 17,387 acres was garnered. The crop from 9,071 acres was utilised for forage, being partly cut green and partly fed off by live stock. This was twice as great as the area so used in the previous year.

Unfortunately it was not only in area that the decrease appeared, but the returns obtained were also most unsatisfactory, as will be seen from the following table:—

F a.

Year.								Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
								Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,387	331,772	19·08
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,201	61,816	11·89
Increase in 1905								...	...	...
Decrease in 1905								12,186	269,956	7·19

In 1904, from the 17,387 acres of barley reaped, 331,772 bushels were secured, or an average of 19·08 bushels to each acre; last year the figures were 5,201 acres, 61,816 bushels, or an average of 11·89 bushels, a decrease in the latter year of 12,186 acres in the area, of 269,956 bushels in the yield, and of 7·19 bushels in the average.

As barley is practically unused as a breadstuff in Queensland, its chief merchantable value is for the production of malt.

The following table shows the extent of the cultivation and production of barley in each principal district, distinguishing between malting and other varieties:—

F b.

District.								Malting Grain.			Other Varieties Grain.		
								Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre, Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre, Bushels.
Allora	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	181	2,808	15·51	105	2,133	20·31
Clifton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,359	24,172	10·25	4	20	5·00
Crow's Nest	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	1,928	17·06	3	40	13·33
Dalby	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116	1,071	9·23	10	162	16·20
Highfields	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	320	6·96	29	116	4·00
Killarney	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	1,242	24·84	10	144	14·40
Toowoomba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,038	8,825	8·50	81	1,017	12·56
Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	761	12,854	16·89	255	4,608	18·07
All Other Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	104	17·33	34	252	7·41
Total State	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,670	53,324	11·42	531	8,492	15·99

Of the area reaped in 1905, 4,670 acres, or 90 per cent. of the total, consisted of malting barley. The area planted with other varieties of that grain comprising 531 acres only.

Restricting attention to the former, it is seen that more than half the total area, or 2,359 acres, were reaped at Clifton, 24,172 bushels being obtained from that area, an average to each acre of 10·25 bushels. Toowoomba came next with 1,038 acres and 8,825 bushels, or an average of 8·50 bushels, followed by Warwick and Allora with 761 and 181 acres, 12,854 and 2,808 bushels, and averages of 16·89 and 15·51 bushels each respectively. From 113 acres at Crow's Nest and 50 acres at Killarney averages of 17·06 and 24·84 bushels to each acre were obtained, the lastnamed very satisfactory result being due to favourable rainfall at a critical period of the crop's growth.

The following table furnishes information as to the production of malt in this State for each of the past five years:—

F c.

Year.								Made from Imported Barley.	Made from Queensland Barley.	Total Malt Made.
								Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	69,000	70,000
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,500	75,500	85,000
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67,500	...	67,500
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113,000	113,000
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107,521	107,521

It is hardly satisfactory to note the great discrepancy between the quantity of malting barley produced and the quantity converted into malt. Speaking generally, the crop of one year would be malted in the following year, and 1 bushel of barley yields 1 bushel of malt. For five years the results have been as follow:—

Produced (bushels).				Malted (bushels).			
1900	...	...	107,910	1901	...	...	69,000
1901	...	...	193,538	1902	...	...	75,500
1902	...	...	1,749	1903	...	...	...
1903	...	...	382,082	1904	...	...	113,000
1904	...	...	296,446	1905	...	...	107,521
1905	...	...	53,324				

Taking the five years of barley production, 1900-1904, and the five corresponding years 1901-1905, it will be seen that whilst during the former 981,725 bushels of malting barley were reaped, only 365,021 bushels of malt were produced, or, allowing a bushel of grain to a bushel of malt, only 37 per cent. of the total production of malting barley was put to its legitimate use.

Although with care in the selection of seed, in the cultivation, and in the harvesting and threshing, it is not difficult with reasonably favourable conditions to produce a good malting barley, still a considerable quantity produced fails to attain the required standard. It has, nevertheless, been conclusively proved that Queensland can produce malting barley second to none, for recently a gentleman long connected with the industry, addressing an audience of Downs farmers, pointed out that Downs barley secured the first prize and gold medal at the Brewers' Exhibition held a while ago in London, and stated that he had been commissioned by one of the leading firms in the United Kingdom to secure trial shipments, whilst one buyer alone was prepared to take annually as much as 130,000 bushels if the quality were maintained. With such assurance, there should be no doubt as to the future of the industry. Although there will be a deficiency this year, yet the immediate local demand for barley for malting would seem to have been practically met, judging from the foregoing table Fc. The southern markets, access to which was for a time barred by plague quarantine restrictions, offer as a first field for enterprise, after which at no distant date another staple either as grain or malt will be added to our exports to the United Kingdom. Although during the past two years no imported barley has been malted in Queensland, yet the manufactured article still arrives.

F d.

Year.						Malt made in Queensland.	Year.						Malt Imported.
						Bushels.							Bushels.
1896-97 (financial)	...	...	...	...	...	14,400	1896	...	...	...	...	147,474
1897-98 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	34,589	1897	...	...	...	...	156,613
1898 (calendar)	...	...	...	...	...	32,629	1898	...	...	...	...	129,811
1899 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	62,271	1899	...	...	...	...	127,469
1900 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	72,730	1900	...	...	...	...	134,098
1901 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	70,000	1901	...	...	...	...	121,424
1902 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	85,000	1902	...	45,507	centals	=	119,755
1903 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	67,500	1903	...	35,933	ditto	=	94,561
1904 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	113,000	1904	...	23,353	ditto	=	61,455
1905 ditto	...	...	...	...	...	107,521	1905	...	31,665	ditto	=	83,329

The local production, it will be seen, is rapidly displacing the imported article; but in this direction there still remains a margin of the State requirements unsatisfied.

The quantity of beer brewed and of malt thus utilised for each of the past five years is shown in the following table:—

F e.

Year.											Beer.	Malt.
											Gallons.	Bushels.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,325,314	188,100
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	* 5,333,202	170,610
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	† 4,489,958	147,591
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	‡ 4,455,110	145,778
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	§ 4,568,916	155,840

* Including waste, 260,038 gallons.

† Including waste, 165,622 gallons.

‡ Including waste, 134,872 gallons.

§ Including waste, 134,731 gallons.

The quantity of beer made in 1905 exceeds that for both 1903 and 1904. It appears that in Queensland 1 bushel of malt is required to produce 30 gallons of beer, the actual quantity for each of the five years quoted being:—1901, 28·3 gallons; 1902, 31·3 gallons; 1903, 30·4 gallons; 1904, 30·6 gallons; and last year, 29·3 gallons.

MAIZE.

The cultivation of this cereal, although affected by the drought, did not suffer quite so severely as wheat and barley. The second of the two crops obtained was, however, most unsatisfactory in its results, but a better return rewarded the earlier planting.

The experience with respect to maize for each of the past five years was as follows:—

G.

Year.											Grain.		Average per Acre.
											Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116,983	2,569,118	21·96
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89,923	1,033,329	11·49
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133,099	1,923,623	14·45
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	119,171	2,542,766	21·34
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113,720	2,164,674	19·04

There were 113,720 acres under cultivation, yielding 2,164,674 bushels, or an average of 19·04 bushels, against 119,171 acres, 2,542,766 bushels, and an average of 21·34 bushels in the previous year, or decreases in 1905 of 5,451 acres and 378,092 bushels. Each acre thus returning 2·30 bushels less in 1905 than in 1904.

Particulars respecting this crop for 1905 in each of the geographical groups of the State are furnished in the following table:—

G a.

MAIZE GRAIN.

Division or Group.	Acres.	Yield.	Average.	Proportion of Area to whole Area of Maize for Grain.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	
Rockingham... ..	8,107	292,720	36·11	7·13
Edgumbe	820	15,643	19·08	0·72
Port Curtis	1,331	22,465	16·88	1·17
Burnett and Wide Bay	14,226	247,913	17·43	12·51
Moreton	57,398	1,133,596	19·75	50·47
Downs	30,534	437,870	14·34	26·85
Maranoa	306	1,187	3·88	0·27
Other Districts	998	13,280	13·31	0·88
Total State	113,720	2,164,674	19·04	100·00

It will be seen that Moreton provides one-half, the Downs one-fourth, and the Burnett and Wide Bay district one-eighth of the entire crop, whilst the best average yield was obtained in Rockingham, where from 8,107 acres an average of 36·11 bushels was obtained. On the Downs, where a return of 14·34 bushels to each acre was secured, a good deal of damage was caused by hail, whilst on the Burnett, where much of the farm land is still surrounded by unfelled scrub, bandicoots and other vermin caused considerable loss.

The following table affords a comparison between the maize crops of 1904 and 1905 in each of the principal petty sessions districts:—

G b.

Petty Sessions District.	Area Planted for Grain.			Yield of Grain.			Average Yield per Acre.		
	In 1904.	In 1905.	Increase or Decrease	In 1904.	In 1905.	Increase or Decrease	In 1904.	In 1905.	Increase or Decrease
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Allora	2,660	2,104	— 556	43,018	25,133	— 17,885	16·17	11·95	— 4·22
Beaudesert	2,830	3,017	187	67,911	83,595	15,684	24·00	27·71	3·71
Biggenden	1,808	1,641	— 167	51,181	27,475	— 23,706	28·31	16·74	— 11·57
Bundaberg	3,798	1,966	— 1,832	105,586	30,863	— 74,723	27·80	15·70	— 12·10
Cairns	1,658	905	— 753	48,082	30,730	— 17,352	29·00	33·96	4·96
Childers	1,135	763	— 372	28,973	13,473	— 15,500	25·53	17·66	— 7·87
Clifton	3,785	4,557	772	51,464	57,747	6,283	13·60	12·67	— 0·93
Crow's Nest	4,788	4,686	— 102	87,502	87,002	— 500	18·28	18·57	0·29
Dalby	1,054	643	— 411	20,810	5,862	— 14,948	19·74	9·12	— 10·62
Dugandan	7,455	7,538	83	164,386	161,952	— 2,434	22·05	21·48	— 0·57
Esk	2,012	2,099	87	70,187	42,302	— 27,885	34·88	20·15	— 14·73
Gatton	9,488	9,334	— 154	214,500	148,821	— 65,679	22·61	15·94	— 6·67
Gin Gin	1,642	959	— 683	53,920	12,071	— 41,849	32·84	12·59	— 20·25
Gympie	1,922	1,856	— 66	57,202	51,989	— 5,213	29·76	28·01	— 1·75
Kilkivan	1,012	999	— 13	16,864	17,307	443	16·66	17·32	0·66
Killarney	3,145	3,484	339	68,613	75,618	7,005	21·82	21·70	— 0·12
Harrisville	4,154	4,412	258	76,316	105,959	29,643	18·37	24·02	5·65
Herberton	5,208	6,476	1,268	171,202	244,466	73,264	32·87	37·75	4·88
Highfields	6,189	6,038	— 151	120,789	78,241	— 42,548	19·52	12·96	— 6·56
Ipswich	1,483	1,453	— 30	24,289	28,845	4,556	16·38	19·85	3·47
Laidley	10,027	10,804	777	195,351	191,073	— 4,278	19·48	17·69	— 1·79
Logan	1,406	1,365	— 41	33,345	31,132	— 2,213	23·72	22·81	— 0·91
Marburg	3,623	3,528	— 95	66,935	56,437	— 10,498	18·48	16·00	— 2·48
Maryborough	1,012	392	— 620	16,864	7,598	— 9,266	16·66	19·38	2·72
Nanango	6,202	3,976	— 2,226	93,569	52,229	— 41,340	15·09	13·14	— 1·95
Nerang	2,032	1,684	— 348	53,961	46,377	— 7,584	26·56	27·54	0·98
Redcliffe	1,811	1,735	— 76	32,807	34,037	1,230	18·12	19·62	1·50
Rockhampton	1,262	843	— 419	29,196	12,613	— 16,583	23·13	14·96	— 8·17
Rosewood	2,654	2,742	88	39,896	37,455	— 2,441	15·03	13·66	— 1·37
Tiaro	1,440	1,223	— 217	62,443	30,174	— 32,269	43·36	24·67	— 18·69
Toowoomba	7,354	7,264	— 90	111,483	104,775	— 6,708	15·16	14·42	— 0·74
Warwick	4,521	6,044	1,523	67,728	82,341	14,613	14·98	13·62	— 1·36
All other Districts	8,601	7,190	— 411	196,393	148,982	— 47,411	22·83	20·72	— 2·11
Total State	119,171	113,720	— 5,451	2,542,766	2,164,674	— 378,092	21·34	19·04	— 2·30

The largest increases in area in 1905 were:—Warwick, 1,523 acres; Herberton, 1,268 acres; Laidley, 777 acres; Clifton, 772 acres; Killarney, 339 acres; and Harrisville, 258 acres. Decreases were recorded at Nanango, 2,226 acres; Bundaberg, 1,832 acres; Cairns, 753 acres; Gin Gin, 683; and Maryborough, 620 acres; thus showing heavy failures in the Burnett and Wide Bay districts. In production the chief increases were:—Herberton, 73,264 bushels; Harrisville, 29,643 bushels; Beaudesert, 15,684 bushels; and Warwick, 14,613 bushels.

The largest average yield per acre was 37·75 bushels at Herberton, followed by Cairns with 33·96 bushels; the rich scrub lands of those northern districts not yet having been depleted by unscientific farming. The other districts in which a yield exceeding 25 bushels was obtained were:—Gympie, 28·01; Beaudesert, 27·71; and Nerang, 27·54 bushels. The following districts cultivating at least 1,000 acres

only returned the following averages per acre :—Allora, 11·95 bushels; Clifton, 12·67 bushels; Highfields, 12·96 bushels; Nanango, 13·14 bushels; Rosewood, 13·66 bushels; Warwick, 13·62 bushels; and Toowoomba, 14·42 bushels.

It is difficult to ascertain quantities of goods exported, because the returns of interstate transfers, as supplied by the Customs authorities, furnish values only.

Maize to the value of £10,929 was imported, and to the value of £31,824 exported during 1905, leaving a balance in favour of exports of £20,895. The bulk, indeed practically all of the export was to New South Wales, whilst strangely enough 31,604 centals, valued at £6,373, was imported from that State. The excess sent out of the State was 115,613 bushels.

OATS.

Fortunately this crop is of much less importance to the farmer than either wheat, barley, or maize, for last season was an extremely unsatisfactory one. The area utilised for oat production as a cereal is very limited indeed, by far the greater proportion of the area sown being mown for hay or cut green. A comparison of this crop for each of the past five years is furnished in the following table :—

H.

Oats.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for grain	1,535	78	2,808	643	533
Mown for hay	17,167	2,619	19,523	9,076	4,446
Cut for green fodder	4,561	1,462	1,897	3,354	4,733
Total	23,263	4,159	24,228	13,073	9,712

It will be seen at a glance that oats are scarcely worth attention in a report on grain crops, and that in 1905 even the area given to hay and green forage was a greatly reduced one.

Comparing the area reaped during the past two years, as is done in the following table :—

H a.

Year.	Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1904	643	15,137	23·54
1905	533	5,858	10·99
Increase in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...
Decrease in 1905	110	9,279	12·55

Last year there was approximately a decrease in area of one-sixth, of production of two-thirds, and in average yield of considerably over one-half. In view of the demand for oats and their products, it seems unaccountable that sufficient grain is not grown to at least meet the home consumption, whereas the greatest quantity produced in any year of the last decade—namely, in 1903—was only 70,713 bushels, the demand being greatly in excess of this, as shown by the following table :—

H b.

ANNUAL ACQUISITION by the STATE of OATEN GRAIN and its PRODUCTS expressed in TERMS of OATS.*

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Average of the Quinquennium.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Net Imports { Oats (Grain)	135,365	266,463	134,443	81,618	115,452	146,668
{ Products of Oats	102,800	139,059	93,200	123,895	142,715	120,334
Production, Oats (Grain)	42,208	520	70,713	15,137	5,858	26,887
Total	280,373	406,042	298,356	220,650	264,025	293,889

* Oatmeal converted into Oats on the basis of 1 ton Avoirdupois to each 100 bushels of Oats.

The average annual demand on a five years' basis is 293,889 bushels, of which during 1901-5 less than one-tenth was produced in the State, and the remaining nine-tenths were imported. Of this latter about five-ninths came in as grain and four-ninths in the form of some one or other of the products of that cereal.

RICE.

This grain has practically gone out of cultivation. Last year there were only 33 acres planted, from which 885 bushels were garnered, an average to each acre of 26·82 bushels. The results of this crop for each of the past eight years have been as follow :—

I.

Year.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average Bushels.
1898	863	38,133	44·19
1899	319	9,275	29·08
1900	271	6,870	25·35
1901	205	5,222	25·47
1902	33	1,093	28·76
1903	49	1,322	27·00
1904	60	1,638	27·30
1905	33	885	26·82

The gradual decline in the cultivation of rice is here at once seen.

RYE.

Although a breadstuff in some of the continental countries of Europe, rye hardly counts as a cereal in Queensland. The acreage and yield for the past five years are shown in the subjoined table:—

J.

Year.										Acres.	Yield.	Average per Acre.
											Bushels.	Bushels.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	246	5,000	20·33
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	238	10·82
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	315	6,482	20·58
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151	1,729	11·45
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	562	9·37

Cultivated to some extent for hay and green forage, of course a certain quantity of grain is required for seed, and this demand, together with a small consumption for feeding poultry, accounts for the total production.

POTATOES (ENGLISH).

Although the average yield per acre in Queensland is somewhat less than that obtained in the other States, the difference is hardly sufficient to account for the comparatively small area devoted to their culture, the result being that a large amount of money is sent out of the country to enrich the farmers of the southern States. A reference to the statement below shows the extent to which Queensland has been dependent on other countries for the commodity:—

K.

Year.										Weight.	Value.
										Tons.	£
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,621	81,800
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,848	152,560
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,734	89,605
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,936	20,265
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,672	97,708

There were 7,170 acres under potatoes last year, which is 2,601 acres less than 1904; the yield also in 1905 was considerably below that of the previous year—viz., 11,308 tons, as against 19,231 tons. The yield per acre was also poor, being only 1·58 tons, the average for 1904 being 1·97 tons, and the mean for twenty years 2·19 tons.

SWEET POTATOES.

The sweet potato will not stand frost, so that its cultivation is practically excluded from the Downs and Maranoa districts. It forms a good substitute for the English potato, but is not used for the table to so great an extent; prejudice, doubtless, partly contributing to the limitation of utilisation. There were 3,229 acres returned last year, yielding 14,974 tons, or an average return per acre of 4·64.

SUGAR.

The year 1905 witnessed the second best season, as regards the output of sugar, ever experienced in this State, whilst as to area, both cultivated and cut for crushing, the year was a record one. There were 134,107 acres under cane, and 96,093 acres crushed; from the latter there was obtained 1,415,745 tons of cane and 152,722 tons of sugar of a standard of 94 N.T. These returns were both exceeded in 1898, when 1,542,090 tons of cane and 163,734 tons of sugar were secured from 82,391 acres of cane crushed.

In comparing, however, the 1898 crop with those for 1904 and 1905, it is necessary to remember that for the past two years, at the instigation of Dr. Maxwell, the tonnage of sugar has not been given at its avoirdupois weight, but its equivalent weight at an average standard of 94 net titre.

A comparison of each of the five years 1901-1905 is furnished in the following table:—

L.

Year.										Acres Cultivated.	Acres Crushed.	YIELD.	
												Tons Cane.	Tons Sugar.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112,031	78,160	1,180,091	120,858
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85,338	59,102	641,927	76,626
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111,516	60,375	823,875	91,828
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120,317	82,741	1,326,989	*147,688
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134,107	96,093	1,415,745	*152,722

* 94 per cent. net titre.

The area as cultivated and crushed last year exceeded the acreages so treated for 1904 by 13,790 acres and 13,352 acres respectively; and, whilst in the latter year 1,326,989 tons of cane were obtained, in 1905 that output was exceeded by 88,756 tons.

With the greatly increased area crushed in 1905, had the conditions prevailing been as satisfactory as in 1904, both as regards the average quantity of cane and also as to its quality, the yield for the record year of output—1898—would have been considerably exceeded even without considering the difference in the standard.

The notable feature about the 1898 campaign was the large average tonnage of cane secured to each acre crushed—namely, 18·72 tons. The average returns obtained during each of the last five years were as follow:—

L a.

Year.	TO EACH ACRE CRUSHED.		Tons of Cane to One Ton of Sugar.
	Tons of Cane.	Tons of Sugar.	
1901	15·10	1·55	9·76
1902	10·86	1·30	8·38
1903	13·65	1·52	8·97
1904	16·04	1·78	8·99
1905	14·73	1·59	9·27

Taking the figures of the second column, it is seen that of the five years reviewed the best average return of cane per acre was in 1904—namely, 16·04 tons—followed by 15·10 tons in 1901, then 14·73 tons in 1905, or 3·99 tons less cane than was obtained in 1898. The quality of the cane is best gauged by the figures in the fourth column of the table, where the tonnage of cane required to make each ton of sugar is given, from which it will be seen that the results in 1905 were less satisfactory than in any year, except 1901, of the quinquennium.

It is in these two directions of increasing the productiveness of land, both as to the quantity of cane produced and also as to its quality, that the future of the sugar industry mainly depends.

The machinery and skill now available for the manufacture of sugar is of a character to leave little scope for advance in economic productiveness after the cane has left the field, except perhaps with regard to the utilisation of by-products, but plenty of room remains there for improvement by the adoption of a careful selection of plants, thorough and scientific cultivation, including the use of fertilisers, and in irrigation.

Particulars respecting the 1905 crop are shown in greater detail in the following table:—

L b.

Division and District.	Area for Plants.	Area Stand-over or Unproductive.	Area Crushed for Sugar.	Total Area for Sugar.	Weight of Cane.	Sugar.	Molasses.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.
<i>Rockingham—</i>							
Cairns and Douglas	368	4,026	15,301	19,695	233,505	26,334	736,549
Ingham and Mourilyan	350	5,164	17,683	23,197	221,923	27,605	989,247
Total	718	9,190	32,984	42,892	455,428	53,939	1,725,796
<i>Edgecumbe—</i>							
Ayr	94	2,066	4,423	6,583	85,066	10,337	222,712
Bowen	6	1,085	2,211	3,302	26,424	2,741	18,000
Mackay	281	9,285	20,762	30,328	285,545	32,380	820,580
Total	381	12,436	27,396	40,213	397,035	45,458	1,061,292
<i>Port Curtis—</i>							
Gladstone ... ..	...	4	24	28	152	*	...
<i>Burnett and Wide Bay—</i>							
Bundaberg and Gin Gin	174	7,791	18,371	26,336	244,619	26,645	1,112,073
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	82	5,022	12,414	17,518	234,783	19,728	976,504
Gympie ... ..	...	78	136	214	2,279	†	...
Total	256	12,891	30,921	44,068	481,681	46,373	2,088,577
<i>Moreton—</i>							
Logan	6	616	1,869	2,491	29,355	2,124	74,000
Marburg	5	288	250	543	1,949	173	12,000
Maroochy	33	1,039	2,013	3,085	39,789	3,945	115,200
Nerang	10	141	636	787	10,356	710	30,000
Total	54	2,084	4,768	6,906	81,449	6,952	231,200
TOTAL STATE	1,409	36,605	96,093	134,107	1,415,745	152,722	5,106,865

* Crushed in Bundaberg.

† Crushed in Maroochy and Maryborough.

Of the 134,107 acres under cane the produce of 1,409 were used for plants, 36,605 acres were held over or newly planted, and 96,093 acres were crushed. Of the area held over, 9,190 acres or 25 per cent. were in the Rockingham group, 12,436 acres or 34 per cent. in the Edgecumbe group, 9,285 acres of it at Mackay, and 12,891 acres or 35 per cent. in the Burnett and Wide Bay group.

Of the acreage crushed, 15,301 acres were contributed by Cairns-Douglas; 17,683 acres by Ingham-Mourilyan; 4,423 by Ayr; 2,211 acres by Bowen; 20,762 acres by Mackay; 18,371 acres by Bundaberg-Gin Gin; and 12,414 acres by Childers-Maryborough-Tiara; whilst the four districts of Logan, Marburg, Maroochy, and Nerang in the South together crushed 4,768 acres.

Of the 1,415,745 tons of cane obtained, 32 per cent. was obtained by the Rockingham division, 28 per cent. by Edgecumbe, 34 per cent. by Burnett-Wide Bay, and 6 per cent. by Moreton.

On comparing the ratios of contributions of sugar manufactured, these proportions are slightly departed from, Rockingham providing 35 per cent. of the total production, Edgumbe 30 per cent., Wide Bay-Burnett 30 per cent., and Moreton 5 per cent., the quality of the crop proving much less satisfactory in Wide Bay-Burnett than in the other groups.

MOLASSES.—Utilisation of by-products is an axiom in all manufacture, and in this respect perhaps the most has not been accomplished in the process of sugar production. The burning of the trash, a course still largely in vogue, is hardly the best use to which it could be put, although the simplicity of this method of disposal is well calculated to encourage its adoption. Less excuse exists, perhaps, for the failure to utilise to a greater extent two by-products of the mill—viz., the megass, or bagass as it is sometimes called, and the molasses.

The possibilities existing in these articles have in the past in this State been largely ignored, and their disposal looked upon at times as a difficulty to be overcome. The megass, of course, when dry can be and is employed as fuel; the molasses also will readily burn, but special provision is desirable for its use in the furnace. Possessing great value as a food product, these methods of disposal leave much to be desired, and as by combining the two articles a valuable saccharine cake can be produced well adapted for feeding all classes of live stock it is well worthy of consideration whether the past waste in this direction should be continued. Many years ago a planter on the Logan placed such a product on the market, but in those days artificial feeding of cattle was but little practised, and a few severe winters wiped out for a time the plantations in that part of Queensland, rapidly maturing canes being then but little known.

It has recently been proved in the West Indies and the Sandwich Islands that a marketable product can be manufactured by mixing one-fifth of ground megass with four-fifths of molasses.

In the case of four factories, two of them important ones, no record of the molasses obtained was kept; the output from the others was 5,106,865 gallons, or, say, from 75 to 80 million pounds weight. Of this considerably less than half was put to profit.

In addition to the returned production for 1905, there was on hand from the previous season 797,653 gallons, making to account for 5,904,518 gallons. The quantity sold was 1,327,446 gallons; 591,732 gallons were used as feed chiefly for live stock; 27,680 gallons were employed as manure; and 977,812 were returned as in stock. Thus besides the produce of the four factories who kept no record, there was an evident waste of 2,979,848 gallons. On referring to the last table—Lb—it will be seen that the relation between the quantity of sugar made and the resulting molasses varies greatly. In Rockingham, for each ton of sugar manufactured, 32 gallons of molasses were returned; in Edgumbe, 28 gallons to each ton; in Burnett-Wide Bay, 45 gallons; and in Moreton, 33 gallons. In the Wide Bay-Burnett alone, it will be noted, the proportion of molasses was high, a great deal of the low-lying cane having been severely cut with frost. It is, however, probable that a considerable quantity of molasses produced escapes record.

The following table shows the averages obtained in each of the cane districts last year:—

L c.
SUGAR AVERAGES, 1905.

Divisions or Groups and Districts.								Tons of Cane per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Sugar per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Cane per Ton of Sugar.
<i>Rockingham—</i>										
Cairns and Douglas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.26	1.72	8.87
Ingham and Mourilyan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.55	1.56	8.04
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.81	1.64	8.44
<i>Edgumbe—</i>										
Ayr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.23	2.34	8.23
Bowen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.95	1.24	9.64
Mackay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.75	1.56	8.82
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.49	1.66	8.73
<i>Port Curtis—</i>										
Gladstone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.33	*	*
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.33	...	...
<i>Burnett and Wide Bay—</i>										
Bundaberg and Gin Gin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.32	}	10.39
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.91		
Gympie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.76		
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.58	1.50	10.39
<i>Moreton—</i>										
Logan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.71	1.14	13.82
Marburg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.80	0.69	11.27
Maroochy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.77	1.96	10.09
Nerang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.28	1.12	14.59
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.08	1.46	11.72
TOTAL STATE								14.73	1.59	9.27

* Crushed in Bundaberg.

† Crushed in Maroochy and Maryborough.

The average yield of cane to each acre for 1905 was for the whole State 14.73 tons, against 16.04 tons in the previous year. The greatest average yield in any district was in the southern district of Maroochy, where 19.77 tons were obtained, and followed by 19.23 tons at Ayr, where irrigation is adopted; 18.91 tons at Childers-Maryborough-Tiaro; Gympie, on a small area, 16.76 tons; 16.28 tons at Nerang; 15.71 at the Logan; and 15.26 tons at Cairns-Douglas. These averages are all above the average for the whole State.

The average tonnage of sugar obtained to each acre cut for crushing was for the whole State 1·59 tons in 1905 and 1·78 tons in 1904. The maximum of yield for 1905 was secured at Ayr—namely, 2·34 tons—followed by Maroochy 1·96 tons. The only other district in which the State average was exceeded was Cairns-Douglas, where 1·72 tons was secured to each acre cut. Mackay and Ingham-Mourilyan both just fell short of the general average, having yields of 1·56 tons per acre each, whilst the Burnett-Wide Bay group returned 1·50 exactly.

The quantity of cane required on an average to make a ton of sugar varies considerably, the quality of the cane retrograding as the locality recedes from the equator. In Rockingham, the most northerly division, 1 ton of sugar was obtained from 8·44 tons of cane. In Edgcumbe the average was 8·73 tons; in Burnett-Wide Bay, 10·39; and in Moreton, 11·72.

A comparison of the crops for 1904-1905 in each district is afforded in the following table:—

Ld.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cultivation.			Production.					
	Area in 1904.	Area in 1905.	Increase or —Decrease in 1905.	1904.		1905.		Increase or —Decrease in 1905.	
				Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Ayr	6,227	6,583	356	4,242	10,994	4,423	10,337	181	— 657
Bowen	3,271	3,302	31	2,504	3,931	2,211	2,741	— 293	— 1,190
Bundaberg, Gin Gin, and Gladstone	23,308	26,364	3,056	16,382	47,881	18,395	46,373	2,013	— 1,508
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	16,632	17,518	886	10,650		12,414		1,764	
Cairns and Douglas	17,028	19,695	2,667	13,108	26,563	15,301	26,334	2,193	— 229
Ingham and Mourilyan	19,544	23,197	3,653	15,189	26,089	17,683	27,605	2,494	1,516
Logan	2,174	2,491	317	1,142	980	1,869	2,124	727	1,144
Mackay	28,182	30,328	2,146	17,622	28,305	20,762	32,380	3,140	4,075
Marburg	410	543	133	191	120	250	173	59	53
Maroochy and Gympie	2,866	3,299	433	1,292	2,345	2,149	3,945	857	1,600
Nerang	675	787	112	419	480	636	710	217	230
Totals, 1904	120,317	...	...	82,741	147,688	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1905 ... ..	...	134,107	...	...	...	96,093	152,722	...	...
Increase in certain Districts, 1905	...	...	13,790	...	...	...	...	13,645	8,618
Decrease in certain Districts, 1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	293	3,584
Net Increase in 1905 ... ..	...	...	13,790	...	...	...	...	13,352	5,034
Net Decrease in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

In area under cultivation with sugar-cane there was an increase in every district, increases which exceeded 1,000 acres being Ingham-Mourilyan, 3,653 acres; Bundaberg-Gin Gin, 3,056 acres; Cairns-Douglas, 2,667 acres; and Mackay, 2,146 acres. With respect to area, the crop from which was cut for crushing—except for a small decrease at Bowen—every district also showed an increase, the chief increases being Mackay, 3,140 acres; Ingham-Mourilyan, 2,494 acres; Cairns-Douglas, 2,193 acres; Bundaberg-Gin Gin, 2,013 acres; and Childers-Maryborough-Tiario 1,764 acres. Regarding sugar produced, six districts recorded increases and four districts decreases last year. The principal of the former were:—Mackay, 4,075 tons; Maroochy, 1,600 tons; Ingham-Mourilyan, 1,516 tons; and Logan, 1,144 tons; and, of the latter, Burnett-Wide Bay, 1,508 tons; and Bowen, 1,190 tons.

The following table furnishes for 1904 and 1905 information as to average yields in each sugar-producing division in the State:—

Le.

Division.	TO EACH ACRE CRUSHED.				TON CANE TO EACH TON SUGAR.	
	Tons of Cane.		Tons of Sugar.		1904.	1905.
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.		
Rockingham	15·42	13·81	1·86	1·64	8·29	8·44
Edgcumbe	15·76	14·49	1·77	1·66	8·88	8·73
Port Curtis	3·75	6·33	*	*	*	*
Burnett and Wide Bay...	17·14	15·58	1·77	1·50	9·71	10·39
Moreton	14·24	17·08	1·29	1·46	11·04	11·72
State	16·04	14·73	1·79	1·59	8·99	9·27

* Crushed in Bundaberg. From a small area only.

This table illustrates to what extent the 1905 crop was, as regards average, less satisfactory than that for 1904, and shows that the increased output for the former year was simply due to the increased area cut for crushing.

WHITE-GROWN CANE.—Information gathered by the agricultural collectors as to the acreage and tonnage of white-grown cane differed considerably from that returned to the Excise Department. After investigation, I consider that whilst with regard to tonnage the excise figures are the more reliable, yet

the position is reversed with regard to acreage; the estimates contained in the following table have therefore been adjusted on those bases:—

L f.

RETURNED AS GROWN AND HARVESTED BY WHITE LABOUR.

Rebate.	Petty Sessions District.	Area Crushed for Sugar.	Weight of Cane Harvested.
		Acres.	Tons.
No. 1 at 5s.	Cairns and Douglas	714	10,898
	Ingham and Mourilyan	1,957	24,562
	Total	2,671	35,460
No. 2 at 4s. 8d.	Ayr	710	13,660
	Bowen	1,591	19,010
	Mackay	10,130	139,296
	Total	12,431	171,966
No. 3 at 4s. 4d.	Bundaberg, Gin Gin, Gladstone	7,353	97,846
	Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	6,316	119,454
	Total	13,669	217,300
No. 4 at 4s.	Logan	1,861	29,233
	Maroochy and Gympie	1,887	36,776
	Nerang	580	9,447
	Marburg	71	728
	Total	4,399	76,184
	Grand Total	33,170	500,910

For whilst an excise officer would closely scrutinise returns as regards weight of cane, for on the figures contained in them bounty would be paid, yet so long as he was satisfied that the cane in question came from a field upon which no coloured labour had been employed, he would not be greatly exercised as to the exact dimensions of that field.

Last year the produce of 33,170 acres were returned as having been grown without the intervention of coloured alien labour, from which 500,910 tons of cane were obtained, or an average yield of 15·10 tons to each acre. Thus the proportion of white grown to total cane was 34·5 per cent. of the acreage, and 35·4 per cent. of the tonnage. The ratios for the two immediately preceding years were:—Acreage, 1903, 28 per cent.; 1904, 31 per cent. Tonnage, 1903, 26 per cent.; 1904, 29 per cent.

North of Mackay the employment of coloured labour still greatly predominates, whilst in the Moreton division the opposite condition prevails. Between the districts of Ingham and Douglas, inclusive, 8 per cent. only of the area crushed there was white-grown. At Ayr the proportion was 16 per cent., at Bowen 72 per cent., at Mackay 49 per cent., in the Wide Bay-Burnett 44 per cent., and in the Moreton 92 per cent.

The amount of bonus paid for each of three bounty years is shown in the following table:—

L g.

—	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.
		£		£		£
1st District ...	37,660	9,415	32,131	8,002	35,459	8,850
2nd „ ...	106,333	24,811	166,441	38,620	171,967	40,256
3rd „ ...	40,283	8,728	143,421	31,055	217,300	47,105
4th „ ...	37,500	7,500	37,891	7,534	76,184	15,339
Total ...	221,776	50,454	379,884	85,211	500,910	111,550

Starting with a payment of £50,454 in 1903, the sum of £85,211 was required in the following year, an increase of 69 per cent.; whilst the amount paid last year, £111,550, showed a centesimal increase of 31 on the bonus for 1904.

During 1905 there were fifty-seven factories engaged in the conversions of sugar-cane into sugar. Particulars respecting these are furnished in the following statement:—

L h.

										Works.	Hands Employed.	VALUE.	
												Machinery.	Land and Premises.
										No.	No.	£	£
Refineries Juice Mills Sugar Mills	}	In operation, 1905	{	...	...	...	...	...	2	286	211,425	95,000	
				...	...	...	...	6	36	13,500	530		
				...	...	...	...	49	2,003	1,441,947	209,193		
Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	57	2,325	1,666,872	304,723		

Besides forty-nine mills employed in the crushing of cane and the manufacture of raw sugar, there were six subsidiary mills crushing the cane only, the resulting juice being treated elsewhere. There were also two refineries for the manufacture of the refined article from the raw sugar produced. These establishments gave employment to 2,325 hands, and the capital invested in the industry amounted to £1,971,595.

Assistance to the sugar industry is given under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act, by facilitating the establishment of central sugar-mills worked on a kind of co-operative principle. Public funds are advanced by way of loan to be expended in the erection of necessary factories in suitable localities. Security for repayment of the advance comprises a lien over the mill and machinery and first mortgages over sugar farms in the benefited area.

Particulars respecting the condition of these loans kindly furnished by the Comptroller of Central Sugar-mills are as follow :—

	1904.	1905.
Number of sugar-mills to which advances have been made under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act	11	11
Under other conditions	2	2
Number of Tramway Companies under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act	1	1
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total amount of advance up to 31st December under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act	532,786 0 6	532,786 0 6
Under other conditions	52,500 0 0	52,500 0 0
Indebtedness to 31st December under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act, including temporary advances	560,864 4 3	530,584 4 11
Under other conditions	22,914 2 8	18,566 17 7

SUGAR CONSUMPTION.—The per capita consumption of sugar based on the average for a number of years of the production plus import minus export has been shown to be 114 lb., and this ratio is reasonably confirmed by the excise figures, and it has been decided, therefore, to retain this basis for the present. A comparison of the total and the per capita amount of sugar consumed in each State of the Commonwealth is given in the following table :—

L i.

RETURN showing the ANNUAL CONSUMPTION of SUGAR for the YEAR 1905, based on the AVERAGE ANNUAL CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA of the MEAN POPULATION, for a SERIES of YEARS.

	Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total Federated States.	New Zealand.	Total Australasia
Consumption for the Year 1905—Tons	26,756	69,309	51,965	16,897	11,505	7,362	183,794	40,393	224,187
Average Annual Consumption per Capita for a Series of Years. To the nearest lb.	114	105	96	101	103	92	102	104	103

It might be assumed that the greatly reduced quantity of jam manufactured in the State must have resulted in a corresponding decrease in the sugar consumed, but as there is no evidence that any less quantity of Australian jam entered into consumption, the place of the Queensland jam being taken by the product of the other States, this hardly affects the question, and this assumption is confirmed by the fact that the quantity of sugar upon which excise was paid remains fairly constant, this tax on the sugar contained in southern jam used in Queensland being credited to this State. It must also be noted that considerably more sugar was used in 1905 in connection with tinned pineapples, confectionery, and temperance beverages.

The sugar consumption for the Commonwealth is approximately 185,000 tons, whilst the sugar output of New South Wales, the only other sugar-producing State, is about 20,000 tons per annum, so that for Australia the supply last year was still some 10,000 tons below the demand.

The following table furnishes information as to the import and export of sugar from and to places outside the Commonwealth :—

L j.

IMPORTS and EXPORTS of SUGAR during 1904 for each AUSTRALIAN STATE from and to Places beyond the COMMONWEALTH.

State.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Queensland	24	17	7
New South Wales	7,201	1,622	5,579
Victoria	27,167	1,307	25,860
South Australia	3,669	...	3,669
Western Australia	18	...	18
Tasmania	7	...	7
Total Commonwealth	38,086	2,946	35,140

From this it will be seen that the net imports during 1904—figures for 1905 are not available—amounted to 35,140 tons, against 89,229 tons in 1903 and 89,922 tons in 1902, the two satisfactory sugar crops of the last two years having resulted in a restricted import.

COTTON.

There was a marked increase in the cultivation of cotton during the year, when 171 acres, yielding 113,098 lb., were grown, as against 30 acres, yielding 25,832 lb., in 1904. The principal centre was the Moreton division, from which 112 acres, yielding 78,283 lb., were returned, whilst the remainder was

located in the Rockingham, Port Curtis, Burnett, and Downs divisions, with a small area in the Cook district, showing that the cultivation was distributed over the greater part of the coastal districts of the State. Most of the crop was ginned at Ipswich, where 93,000 lb. were treated. It has been ascertained that this figure has been slightly swelled by cotton actually grown in 1904, although ginned in 1905; but is more largely affected by the inclusion of the produce of numerous cultivated patches, which were individually too small to be recorded by agricultural collectors.

ARROWROOT.

The production of this commodity does not seem likely to expand. Local requirements and a small export being met, the industry remains stationary. Whether the requirements of the English Adulteration Act still prevent the introduction of the Queensland article to the home market under the name "Arrowroot," I am not sure; but some years ago it was decided in the United Kingdom that only the farina of *Maranta arundinacea* could be sold simply as arrowroot, and that the Queensland product must be clearly expressed as "Queensland Arrowroot," the starch of the *Canna edulis*.

It is generally admitted that the Queensland article is in no way inferior to the other, but, naturally, in competition this has to be proved, and in the old country the prejudice in favour of the well-established product would be difficult to overcome. It is deserving of consideration whether it might not be worth the farmers' while to cultivate the approved plant, so as to endeavour to secure a share of the British consumption without the handicap of a special label. The difficulty that presents itself is that the *Canna* is about twice as productive as the *Maranta*, so that there is a great inducement to plant the former, particularly as the product is quite as good. The alternatives that present themselves to enable growers to secure a footing in the home market are either to cultivate the *Maranta* and sell "arrowroot," or to endeavour to establish the "Queensland arrowroot" by offering at price materially below that of the West Indian article, which the greater yield per acre should permit of.

There were only 393 acres planted with arrowroot tuber in 1905. Particulars of the crop for the last two years were as follow:—

M.

District.	1904.		1905.		Increase or Decrease —	
	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Rockingham—						
Herberton	2	30	4	8	2	— 22
Mourilyan	35	350	26	320	— 9	— 30
Total Rockingham ...	37	380	30	328	— 7	— 52
Moreton—						
Beaudesert ... ..	...	...	1	10	1	10
Brisbane ... ..	...	...	1	4	1	4
Caboolture	1	2	...	...	— 1	— 2
Cleveland	4	45	...	...	— 4	— 45
Logan	96	741	93	957	— 3	216
Marburg	2	5	1	2	— 1	— 3
Maroochy	15	202	18	238	3	36
Nerang	267	2,640	243	2,848	— 24	208
Redcliffe	1	7	...	...	— 1	— 7
Rosewood	2	7	3	50	1	43
Woodford	11	64	3	9	— 8	— 55
Total Moreton	399	3,713	363	4,118	— 36	405
Other Districts—						
Cook	1	1	...	...	— 1	— 1
Total State	437	4,094	393	4,446	— 44	352

There was a decrease of 44 acres in the area, and an increase in the yield of 352 tons last year, as compared with 1904. The centre of production is Nerang, where 243 acres, or 62 per cent., of the total area was planted in 1905. The adjoining district of Logan also contributed 93 acres.

The bulk of the crop was converted into commercial arrowroot, about one-tenth or 433 tons of tuber being used for pig feed. The following table furnishes particulars as to the manufacture of the starch from the root last year:—

M a.

District.		Hands Employed.	Tuber.		Arrowroot.	
			Tons.		Lb.	
Mourilyan ... ..	...	3	300		67,200	
Logan ... ..	...	8	757		156,800	
Nerang ... ..	...	29	2,949		532,620	
Others ... ..	...	...	7		1,900	
Total ... ..	...	40	4,013		758,520	

From this it will be seen that 758,520 lb. of arrowroot was obtained from 4,013 tons of tuber; and, as 4,446 tons were returned from 393 acres, it follows that 2,138 lb. of the manufactured product would be yielded by each acre.

The import, export, and production for each of the last five years is shown in the following table:—

M b.
ARROWROOT.

Year.						IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		PRODUCTION.	
						Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Manufacturers' Value.
						Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
1901	...	...	...	...	...	2,830	26	582,069	4,278	704,480	3,554
1902	...	...	...	...	...	5,648	59	360,719	3,872	192,702	1,766
1903	...	...	...	...	...	264	7	360,748	5,058	683,883	6,903
1904	...	...	...	...	...	53	1	331,454	4,417	740,715	4,082
1905	...	...	...	...	...	2,240	12	597,325	5,439	758,520	4,028

The value of exports are returned at a rate considerably in excess of manufacturers' values, but much of the exported article is packeted, the cost of which, added to freights, &c., explains the difference.

TOBACCO.

The satisfactory average crop of 1904 was considerably improved upon last year, and that upon an extended acreage.

A comparison of the two crops is afforded in the following table:—

N.

District.						1904.		1905.		Increase or Decrease —	
						Area.	Produce Dried Leaf.	Area.	Produce Dried Leaf.		
						Acres.	Cwt.	Acres.	Cwt.	Acres.	Cwt.
<i>Rockingham.</i>											
Cardwell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	20	2	20
<i>Moreton.</i>											
Nerang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	53	5	53
<i>Downs.</i>											
Goondiwindi	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	4	29	2	21
Inglewood	...	...	...	...	...	95	861	162	2,089	67	1,228
Killarney	...	...	...	...	...	8	121	4	63	4	58
Texas	...	...	...	...	...	679	6,135	752	7,946	73	1,811
Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	30	4	30
Total Downs						784	7,125	926	10,157	142	3,032
Total State						784	7,125	933	10,230	149	3,105

There were 784 acres under tobacco in 1904, and 933 in 1905, or a numerical increase of 149 acres and a centesimal continued increase of 19 in the latter year. Against the 7,125 cwt. of dried leaf gathered in 1904, there were 10,230 cwt. in the following year, and the average yields obtained were 9.09 cwt. and 10.96 cwt. per acre respectively in each, an increased average production of 1.87 cwt. per acre in 1905. The cultivation of this crop is practically restricted to the districts of Texas and Inglewood, 914 of the total of 933 acres in 1905 being found in those districts. Killarney, where at one time much tobacco was produced, has practically gone out of the industry. In Texas, there were increases of 73 acres in area and of 1,811 cwt. in production, and in Inglewood of 67 acres and 1,228 cwt. last year as compared with 1904.

The quantity of tobacco imported and entered for home consumption during each of the last two years were as follow:—

N a.

Year.						Tobacco, &c.				Imported.	Entered for Home Consumption.*
										Lb.	Lb.
1904	...	...	{			Manufactured	...	...	...	1,062,013	1,035,024
						Unmanufactured	...	...	...	10,290	272
						Cigars	...	...	...	41,636	42,127
						Cigarettes	...	...	...	120,381	98,499
						Snuff	...	...	...	591	571
						Total	...	...	...	1,234,911	1,176,493
1905	...	...	{			Manufactured	...	...	...	1,178,092	1,157,950
						Unmanufactured	...	...	...	19,780	19,780
						Cigars	...	...	...	43,636	42,667
						Cigarettes	...	...	...	132,671	99,663
						Snuff	...	...	...	693	662
						Total	...	...	...	1,374,872	1,320,722

* Including imports, produce of other States, duty free.

The manufacture of tobacco in Queensland, as a consequence of the operations of the tobacco trust, has greatly decreased, there being only one establishment engaged in this industry in the State.

Ignoring the quantity manufactured in Queensland, and taking that entered for home consumption, and assuming that three-fourths of all males twenty years of age and upwards are smokers, the average annual quantity used by each would be just short of 8 lb.

COFFEE.

Unfortunately the market for this crop is a limited one and already over-supplied. In Brazil, the chief source of supply, efforts are constantly being exercised to restrict production. The demand for this beverage is very small when compared with tea, and its greater costliness militates against its acquiring a more extended use; this has recently been further accentuated in Australia by the lowered price of the manufactured beverage consequent on tariff changes. The results attending its production during 1905 were not very satisfactory, as may be seen from the following table, where the experiences for 1904 and 1905 are portrayed:—

O.

DISTRICT.	Not Bearing.		Bearing.				Average Yield per acre (Bearing).		1905. Increase or Decrease — Bearing Area.	1905. Increase or Decrease —
	1904.	1905.	1904.		1905.		1904.	1905.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		
<i>Rockingham—</i>										
Cairns	3	2	146	35,549	106	24,499	243	231	— 40	— 11,050
Douglas ... ..	...	...	16	8,800	10	5,016	550	502	— 6	— 3,784
Herberton ... ..	...	...	6	10,980	6	4,480	1,830	747	...	— 6,500
Mareeba ... ..	...	8	6	700	2	120	117	60	— 4	— 580
Mourilyan ... ..	...	...	26	16 000	33	18,640	615	565	7	2,640
Total Rockingham ...	3	10	200	72,029	157	52,755	360	336	— 43	— 19,274
<i>Edgecumbe—</i>										
Mackay... ..	5	11	44	27,070	32	9,516	615	297	— 12	— 17,554
<i>Port Curtis—</i>										
Rockhampton	14	14	3	560	3	800	187	267	...	240
<i>Wide Bay and Burnett—</i>										
Maryborough	5	...	7	4,704	5	1,500	672	300	— 2	— 3,204
<i>Moreton—</i>										
Maroochy	13	9	38	28,191	38	17,659	742	465	...	— 10,532
<i>Other Districts—</i>										
Cook	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total State	50	44	292	132,554	235	82,230	454	350	— 57	— 50,324

Both the area, the production, and the average yield show reductions in the latter year. Coffee-planting is pursued from Maroochy in the south to Douglas in the north, all up the eastern seaboard. The tree is unable to resist severe frosts; but, if protected from the west wind, thrives well around Brisbane wherever the soil is sufficiently rich. Of the 235 acres under crop in 1905, 157, or 67 per cent., were found north of Ingham; 38 acres, or 16 per cent., at Maroochy; and 32 acres, or 14 per cent., at Mackay. The average return per acre on the bearing area for the whole State was 350 lb. in 1905, against 454 lb. in the previous year. The best average to each acre was obtained at Herberton, where a return of 747 lb. was secured, followed by Mourilyan 565 lb., Douglas 502 lb., and Maroochy 465 lb. It is, however, only fair to state that the crops at Herberton and Douglas were from limited areas of 6 and 10 acres respectively.

The most important decrease in the productive area in 1905, as compared with 1904, was that of 40 acres at Cairns, whilst there was a slight increase of 7 acres at Mourilyan, in yield, decreases of 17,554 lb. at Mackay, 11,050 lb. at Cairns, and 10,532 lb. at Maroochy. In the latter case the area was the same in both years, but whilst in 1904 a return of 742 lb. to each acre was secured, last year as already stated, the crop was only 465 lb.

PUMPKINS AND MELONS.

As might be expected with the failure of the summer crop of maize, pumpkins also failed to show much improvement on the figures of the previous year. A slightly increased area was planted—viz., 10,606 acres, against 8,991 acres in the previous year; and the yield was 37,079 tons, compared with 30,970 in 1904. The production falls far short of that for 1901 and 1903, when 56,297 tons and 62,102 tons were returned.

FRUIT.

The year 1905 proved far from satisfactory to the orchardist; much of the fruit was so badly affected by the fly that it was valueless either for sale or home use.

Vines, as has not infrequently been the case, suffered severely from hail shortly before maturity, and the later crop of strawberries was ruined by the dry weather, which, followed by extremely heavy rain, closed the fruiting season prematurely. It is satisfactory to note the expansion of the culture of both apples and pineapples, and that although in neither case were the returns so large as has been recorded on many previous occasions, yet as the extension must consist of plantations yet to mature, the future prospect is hopeful.

VINES, GRAPES, AND WINE.

The experience with respect to this crop was not quite so satisfactory as in 1904, but considerably better than that for 1903. Although the area of bearing vines has slightly increased, the total area planted is rather less than in 1904, some vineyards having been ploughed out on exhibiting signs of disease. A comparison of the crops for 1904 and 1905 is afforded by the following table:—

Q.

Year.	VINEYARD.			Grapes Gathered.	Average Yield.
	Acres Bearing.	Acres not Bearing.	Total.		
				Lb.	Lb.
1904	1,647	547	2,194	3,087,835	1,875
1905	1,717	327	2,044	3,017,743	1,758

The yield has, of course, to be given in the form in which the farmer obtains his crop—namely, grapes—and the subsequent manufacture of some of these into wine treated as a separate industry. Of the total area under grapes in 1905, 1,717 acres, or 84 per cent., were bearing, yielding 3,017,743 lb. of grapes, or an average return to each acre of 1,758 lb. The average return to each vine were—1904, 2·68 lb.; and 1905, 2·51.

The crops for the past two years are compared in the following table:—

Q a.

Petty Sessions District.	AREA UNDER VINES.								
	1904.			1905.			Increase or Decrease—in Latter Year.	1904.	1905.
	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total Area.	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total Area.		Grapes Gathered.	Grapes Gathered.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.
Brisbane	223	67	300	268	28	296	— 4	410,148	349,313
Gatton	91	23	114	96	10	106	— 8	249,562	204,150
Gympie	32	17	49	31	12	43	— 6	37,345	34,551
Highfields	40	3	43	29	5	34	— 9	105,606	100,566
Logan	73	18	91	60	10	70	— 21	109,457	99,374
Maryborough	45	14	59	36	5	41	— 18	73,588	79,615
Rockhampton	69	2	71	62	9	71	...	114,560	78,507
Roma	216	206	422	296	119	415	— 7	322,626	289,040
Rosewood	59	29	88	52	...	52	— 36	48,490	5,900
South Brisbane	125	12	137	126	4	130	— 7	247,061	269,412
Stanthorpe	26	41	67	33	48	81	14	50,832	51,080
Toowoomba	201	10	211	192	6	198	— 13	391,401	492,192
Warwick	44	4	48	57	6	63	15	66,250	102,714
All other Districts	393	101	494	379	65	444	— 50	860,909	861,329
Total	1,647	547	2,194	1,717	327	2,044	— 150	3,087,835	3,017,743

Outside the metropolitan districts the principal centres of viticulture were Roma and Toowoomba. Taking the petty sessions districts of Brisbane and South Brisbane together, there were 426 acres under vines, of which 394 were bearing in 1905, yielding a return of 618,725 lb. of grapes, or an average to each acre of 1,570 lb. The production and average yield for the same districts in 1904 were 657,209 lb. and 1,835 lb. respectively. Roma had an area of 415 acres under vines in 1905, a decrease of 7 acres on that of the previous year. Of this only 296 acres were bearing, returning 289,040, or an average of 976 lb. In Toowoomba, there were 198 acres, of which all but 6 acres were bearing, yielding 492,192 lb., an average of 2,564 lb. to each acre. A relatively large reduction in both acreage and production took place at Rosewood, where portions of two important vineyards were so badly damaged by hail as to involve the necessity of ploughing out.

The average yield obtained for five years in the four most important vine districts are shown in the following table:—

Q b.

	1901. Average per Acre.	1902. Average per Acre.	1903. Average per Acre.	1904. Average per Acre.	1905. Average per Acre.
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Brisbane	3,002	2,536	2,310	1,761	1,303
Roma	1,936	1,358	1,872	1,494	976
South Brisbane	2,699	1,827	1,961	1,976	2,138
Toowoomba	4,213	2,601	1,666	1,947	2,564
Total State	2,403	1,755	1,590	1,875	1,758

The best year of the quinquennium was 1901, when the average for the whole State was 2,403 lb., and for Toowoomba 4,213 lb., and for Brisbane 3,002.

As an industry, the chief object of the vineyard is the production of wine. No great progress in this direction has been recorded for a long time. The following table shows the quantity of wine made and brandy distilled during each of the past five years:—

Q c.

Years.							Number of Makers.	Quantity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
								Gallons.	Gallons.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	538	148,835	1,112
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	391	100,852	2,199
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	251	38,558	692
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	309	60,433	574
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	320	66,926	1,194

Consequent on the introduction of the uniform Commonwealth tariff, the production in 1903 fell off greatly, owing to the importation of wines from the southern States. The experience of the last two years, however, seem to point to a definite, if only an inconsiderable, recovery. It must be borne in mind that even with a substantial protection, the wine industry failed to flourish long prior to federation. The year of maximum output was 1895, when 238,208 gallons were made; but this declined to but little more than one-half three years later. The sites of production for the wine made is shown in the following table:—

Q d.

1905.

Petty Sessions District.							Number of Makers.	Quantity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
								Gallons.	Gallons.
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	8,039	344
Clifton	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	9,374	...
Gatton	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	2,139	...
Highfields	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	3,989	...
Logan	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	2,225	...
Roma	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	10,950	500
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	4,597	...
Toowoomba	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	12,485	...
All other Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	13,128	350
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	320	66,926	1,194

The largest output was at Toowoomba, where a large number of small growers make wine, chiefly for their own consumption; 90 persons turned out 12,485 gallons, or only 138 gallons to each maker. Roma would appear to be the only district in which the production of wine partakes of the character of an industry. There 6 makers turned out 10,950 gallons of wine, equal to an average per maker of 1,825 gallons, itself a comparatively insignificant quantity.

BANANAS.

Although there was a reduced area under bananas in 1905, as compared with 1904, yet a much more satisfactory return was obtained in the former year. The following table furnishes particulars as to the two crops:—

R.

District.							Area.		Production.		Increase or Decrease —	
							1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	Area.	Quantity.
							Acres.	Acres.	Bunches.	Bunches.	Acres.	Bunches.
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	264	353	51,885	48,025	89	3,860
Cairns	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,481	1,399	267,036	307,369	82	40,333
Cardwell	...	...	...	...	...	...	521	610	167,620	243,200	89	75,580
Logan	...	...	...	...	...	...	155	86	19,516	15,476	69	4,040
Maroochy	...	...	...	...	...	...	583	448	82,889	127,726	135	44,837
Maryborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	159	118	19,827	22,070	41	2,243
Mourilyan	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,848	2,632	1,287,528	1,643,447	216	355,919
Redcliffe	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	150	33,300	39,658	10	6,358
All other Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	509	402	47,205	62,297	107	15,092
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,680	6,198	1,976,806	2,509,268	482	532,462

The fruit fly was, as in former years, productive of much mischief. Whilst all are agreed as to the advisableness of reducing, if it is impossible to eradicate, this pest, considerable diversity exists as to the best method of doing so. It is, however, quite certain that concerted action is indispensable to obtain any adequate result, and, judging by past experience in similar matters, coercive measures will prove the only way of securing this.

There were 6,198 acres of banana plantations in 1905, against 6,680 in the previous year, a decrease of area of 482 acres; the yield obtained was 2,509,268 bunches, against 1,976,806 bunches, an increase of 532,462 bunches. Mourilyan is still the chief centre of production, contributing 42 per cent. of the area per acre, and 65 per cent. of the output. The average returns in bunches obtained during

1905 throughout the State and in the eight most important districts were:—State, 405; Mourilyan, 624; Cardwell, 399; Maroochy, 285; Redcliffe, 264; Cairns, 220; Maryborough, 187; Logan, 180; and Brisbane, 136.

PINEAPPLES.

This fruit also was more largely grown in 1905. Figures for the past two years are furnished in the following table:—

S.

District.	1904.		1905.		Increase or Decrease —	
	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Brisbane	731	230,155	776	238,867	45	8,712
Caboolture	49	6,890	55	6,347	6	— 543
Cairns	60	24,420	71	46,560	11	22,140
Cleveland	215	36,647	291	58,791	76	22,144
Logan	243	67,701	189	58,993	— 54	— 8,708
Maroochy	158	18,617	171	22,266	13	3,649
Maryborough	87	27,205	82	24,302	— 5	— 2,903
Redcliffe	35	5,160	28	9,740	— 7	4,580
Rockhampton	36	6,109	44	6,650	8	541
South Brisbane	38	7,652	43	11,027	5	3,375
All other Districts	129	23,243	95	23,340	— 34	97
Total	1,781	453,799	1,845	506,883	64	530,084

In 1904, there were 1,781 acres under pineapples, against 1,845 in the following year, or an increase of 64 acres in 1905, whilst the production increased from 453,799 to 506,883 dozen. The greater portion of the land under pineapples is found within 100 miles of Brisbane. The area embracing 1,558 acres, and the yield 406,755 dozen, or 84 per cent. and 80 per cent. respectively of the total acreage and production.

The canning of pineapples has recently progressed to an important extent. During 1905, there were 1,411,296 lb. of this fruit preserved, of a total value of £12,687.

The quality of the Queensland fruit is exceptionally good, and with care in selection and preserving an export trade already of considerable importance will rapidly expand. The output for the current year is likely to greatly exceed that for 1905, as it is known that there was considerable activity amongst manufacturers during the early part of this year. The average yield for the State to each acre during 1905 was 275 dozen, against 255 dozen in the previous year.

ORANGES.

Last year's season for the crop was not particularly favourable; it is, therefore, satisfactory to note that the crop maturing for the current year is likely to be a record one, both with regard to quantity and quality.

The following table compares the results for 1904 and 1905:—

T.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Bearing. 1905.	Not yet bearing 1905.	Production.		Increase, or Decrease —	
	1904.	1905.	Area.	Area.	1904.	1905.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Beaudesert	26	22	18	4	21,702	18,980	— 4	— 2,722
Bowen	153	161	102	59	140,268	93,816	— 8	— 46,452
Brisbane	57	53	45	8	58,589	15,153	— 4	— 43,436
Bundaberg	46	39	29	10	27,039	12,116	— 7	— 14,923
Caboolture	62	62	32	30	56,418	47,241	...	— 9,177
Cairns	97	114	55	59	65,391	117,179	17	51,788
Cardwell	179	201	83	118	115,421	159,070	22	43,649
Charters Towers	29	28	19	9	48,872	40,740	— 1	— 8,132
Cleveland	37	32	16	16	8,898	16,899	— 5	8,001
Cook	49	51	45	6	40,060	51,955	2	11,895
Douglas	76	68	52	16	42,520	57,972	— 8	15,452
Esk	29	30	17	13	40,937	23,927	1	— 17,010
Gatton	183	189	170	19	494,968	217,208	6	— 277,760
Gympie	60	58	37	21	41,802	36,951	— 2	— 4,851
Herberton	32	31	22	9	63,339	40,808	— 1	— 22,531
Logan	135	129	93	36	97,523	114,631	— 6	17,108
Mackay	36	44	31	13	43,448	32,685	8	— 10,763
Maroochy	713	730	318	412	441,852	579,856	17	138,004
Maryborough	312	302	180	122	345,071	214,189	— 10	— 130,882
Mourilyan	31	34	29	5	24,347	33,749	3	9,402
Nerang	142	129	69	60	159,807	15,592	— 13	— 144,215
Redcliffe	24	29	24	5	18,920	14,795	5	— 4,125
Rockhampton	97	70	38	32	68,949	31,190	— 27	— 37,759
South Brisbane	51	38	24	14	36,013	8,443	— 13	— 27,570
Tiaro	47	46	32	14	35,221	25,282	— 1	— 9,939
Toowoomba	46	52	48	4	38,076	73,588	6	35,512
All other Districts	357	335	221	114	244,218	241,932	— 22	— 2,286
Total	3,106	3,077	1,849	1,228	2,819,669	2,335,947	— 29	— 483,722

It will be seen that the area of orchard was nearly the same in both years, 1905 showing 29 acres less than 1904. The position was reversed with regard to area in bearing, there being 1,790 acres in 1904 and 1,849 acres in the following year, or an increase of 59 acres in the latter. Notwithstanding the greater area yielding fruit in 1905, there was a decreased production in 1905 of 483,722 dozen, the returns being 2,819,669 dozen in 1904 and 2,335,947 dozen in 1905. The district of Maroochy is the chief site of production, the output for 1905, 579,856 dozen, more than doubling that of any other district. Gattton—where, however, there was a great decline on the return for 1904—furnished the next best yield, 217,208 dozen, followed by Maryborough, 214,189 dozen—also a great reduction on the previous year. The districts next in order were Cardwell, 159,070 dozen; Cairns, 117,179 dozen; and Logan, 114,631 dozen. In 1905, the total bearing area yielded an average return of 1,263 dozen to each acre, the average for the State over a period of twenty years being 1,908 dozen. The average yield obtained from each bearing tree was 14·01 dozen, against 17·52 dozen in the previous year.

MANGOES.

This fruit is increasing in favour with the consumer. One of those highly-flavoured tropical products, the taste for which has to be acquired, the demand was of slow growth. A few years ago in Brisbane it was exceptional to meet persons who cared for mangoes, but now they meet with general acceptance. There are so many varieties of the fruit that a wide margin of choice as to type and flavour is available. The acreage and production for the two years last past were as follow :—

U.

District.	Area.		Bearing, 1905.	Not yet Bearing, 1905.	Production.		Increase or Decrease — 1905.	
	1904.	1905.			1904.	1905.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	31	24	19	5	47,678	58,807	— 7	11,129
Brisbane	16	18	10	8	6,223	7,300	2	1,077
Bundaberg	28	28	26	2	49,130	52,090	...	2,960
Cairns	7	10	8	2	12,918	49,334	3	36,416
Cleveland	15	13	6	7	1,237	5,169	— 2	3,932
Cook	15	16	15	1	78,610	116,600	1	37,990
Douglas	11	11	5	6	79,730	43,310	...	— 36,420
Ingham	10	13	12	1	18,590	54,075	3	35,485
Logan	30	22	18	4	2,565	12,752	— 8	10,187
Mackay	29	46	43	3	215,526	151,004	17	64,522
Maroochy	9	10	5	5	3,314	3,735	1	421
Maryborough	36	33	25	8	48,344	60,100	— 3	11,756
Mourilyan	13	13	13	...	1,862	61,226	...	59,364
Rockhampton	25	28	21	7	30,986	41,594	3	10,608
South Brisbane	14	10	7	3	5,537	5,807	— 4	270
Tiaro	11	10	7	3	1,015	8,973	— 1	7,958
Townsville	17	15	13	2	73,158	46,612	— 2	— 26,546
All other Districts	65	54	42	12	185,169	132,260	— 11	— 52,909
Total	382	374	295	79	861,592	910,748	— 8	49,156

There were 382 acres in 1904, against 374 acres in 1905, a small decrease of 8 acres. Last year 295 acres were bearing, and yielded a return of 910,748 dozen. The bearing area and production for 1904 were 292 acres and 861,592 dozen, an increase for last year in output of 49,156 dozen.

All fruit is at its best gathered ripe from the tree, but this rule is especially applicable to the mango. It, therefore, loses much of its quality when picked green enough to carry considerable distances; but, notwithstanding this, mangoes are exported with success to the southern States, and this trade is likely to extend. The tree, under favourable conditions, bears most prolifically, the fruit thinning out naturally during the maturing season. The more advanced of these windfalls are in demand for the manufacture of chutney, being at times peeled, sliced, and evaporated, to supply the manufacturer throughout the year.

STRAWBERRIES.

The dry weather proved very disastrous to this fruit during 1905; and, although not the complete failure that it was in 1902, only about one-half of an average crop was secured. From the following table the experience of each of the past two years may be obtained :—

V.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Production.		Increase or Decrease —	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
	Acres.	Acres.	Quarts.	Quarts.	Acres.	Quarts.
Brisbane	9	12	7,928	7,312	3	— 616
Bundaberg	5	6	3,652	4,917	1	1,265
Cleveland	44	70	68,499	60,293	26	— 8,206
Gympie	3	5	719	810	2	91
Maroochy	78	59	86,311	55,536	— 19	— 30,775
South Brisbane	14	16	15,722	6,876	2	— 8,846
All other Districts	8	5	4,695	2,484	— 3	— 2,211
Total	161	173	187,526	138,228	12	— 49,298

In 1904, from 161 acres 187,526 quarts were gathered, against 138,228 quarts from 173 acres in the following year, so that, with an increase of 12 acres in the area, the production proved less by 49,298 quarts. There were 26 more acres planted at Cleveland, but 8,206 fewer quarts of fruit marketed. At

Maroochy, the chief source of supply, there was a reduction in area and output amounting to 19 acres and 30,775 quarts. The average yield for the State last year was 799; those for Cleveland and Maroochy, which districts contributed 75 per cent. of the total area and 84 per cent. of the total production, being 861 and 941 quarts respectively; very unsatisfactory returns from other districts reducing the total average.

APPLES.

The cultivation of this fruit tree is gradually assuming larger proportions, which is a matter of congratulation, as the apple is a fruit well adapted for export, and even for local consumption, its good keeping qualities render it a most desirable addition to the items of production.

The following table furnishes information as to the crop of this fruit during the past two years:—

W.

District.	Area.		Increase or Decrease— 1905.	Bearing, 1905.	Not Bearing, 1905.	Production.		Increase or Decrease— 1905.
	1904.	1905.				1904.	1905.	
	Acres.	Acres.				Bushels.	Bushels.	
Allora	5	7	2	4	3	397	196	— 201
Beaudesert	6	5	— 1	3	2	309	135	— 174
Clifton	9	9	...	6	3	462	462	...
Crow's Nest	4	9	5	7	2	99	348	249
Dalby	6	7	1	3	4	202	208	6
Herberton	5	4	— 1	2	2	165	138	— 27
Highfields	6	5	— 1	4	1	571	382	— 189
Killarney	6	2	— 4	2	...	207	157	— 50
Stanthorpe	403	429	26	201	228	12,870	11,463	— 1,407
Toowoomba	27	31	4	27	4	2,619	2,794	175
Warwick	12	11	— 1	9	2	203	482	279
All other Districts	27	18	— 9	14	4	1,058	597	— 461
Total	516	537	21	282	255	19,162	17,362	— 1,800

The area of apple orchard increased from 516 acres in 1904 to 537 acres in 1905, the former figure being an increase of 73 acres over the area for 1903. From 280 acres in 1904 there were gathered 19,162 bushels of fruit, whilst last year only 17,362 bushels were obtained from 282 acres. Out of the total area under apples, 429 acres or 80 per cent. of the whole area were grown at Stanthorpe, 31 acres at Toowoomba, and 11 acres at Warwick. Stanthorpe contributed 11,463 bushels, or 66 per cent. of the total production. The average yield per acre for each of the last two years was—1904, 68 bushels, and 1905, 62 bushels, the returns secured last year at Stanthorpe, Toowoomba, and Warwick being 57 bushels, 103 bushels, and 54 bushels respectively. The average yield obtained at Toowoomba being practically double those of Stanthorpe and Warwick.

OTHER FRUITS.

Full details respecting these can be obtained by a reference to Table XI. of the Appendix. Totals for 1905 respecting a few of the more important kinds are summarised below:—

	Acres.	
Cocoanuts	523	6,015 dozen.
Peaches	389	20,070 bushels.
Plums	229	12,849 „
Apricots	57	4,399 „
Pears	41	2,052 „
Lemons	39	23,792 dozen.

COCOANUTS.—The area with respect to cocoanuts is not very reliable. The palms are planted in a desultory manner, are necessarily much scattered, and in many instances receive little or no attention, consequently it is a little difficult to determine the area occupied, which is probably over estimated. The figures for 1905 show a slight increase in area and decrease in production as compared with the previous year.

PEACHES.—This fruit will bear after a fashion without any cultivation, and for the most part is allowed to do so. With slight exception, no attempt is made with the peach to secure the best results, although under proper conditions one of the choicest of fruits. As at present treated, it is a real danger to the fruit industry, and the drastic treatment by extermination of all trees not properly attended to and deserving of cultivation would prove most beneficial. There is little doubt the foregoing figures by no means comprise the total output, a number of small areas being undoubtedly covered under the return of garden and orchard.

PLUMS.—The area under this useful fruit is rapidly assuming important dimensions. The chief sites of production are comprised in the Downs and Moreton divisions. The climate and soil of Stanthorpe and its neighbourhood seem well adapted to nearly all the many varieties of plum.

APRICOTS.—There was an additional 10 acres under this fruit last year, and considerably more than a corresponding increase in production. The cultivation of this fruit is almost entirely confined to the Downs, from whence 52 of the total of 57 acres were returned.

PEARS.—Of the 41 acres, 36 were found on the Downs and 5 in the Moreton divisions, the latter area, however, proving the much more prolific. In 1904, there were 36 acres under this fruit, yielding 1,914 bushels, or an average per acre of 53 bushels, against that of 50 bushels last year.

LEMONS.—Seeing that all citrus fruits give most satisfactory results in Queensland, when proper attention is bestowed upon their cultivation, it is difficult to understand why this fruit should still figure

so largely amongst imports from abroad. There was a reduced area returned as under lemons in 1905 to that shown in 1904. This was partly due to a small area so returned in the latter year, really proving to be under limes, and partly to a few small areas having been abandoned.

In addition to the foregoing, the following fruits were also included in the agricultural books:— Passion fruit 34 acres, 3,679 bushels; cherries, 32 acres, 173 bushels; custard apples, 26 acres, 1,450 bushels; persimmons, 11 acres, 1,164 bushels; nectarines, 9 acres, 146 bushels; pawpaw, 8 acres, 1,138 dozen; figs, 7 acres, 504 bushels; quinces, 7 acres, 655 bushels; Cape gooseberries, 6 acres, 7,204 quarts. It is impossible to include headed columns in the collection books for every variety of crop. Subsidiary crops, therefore, are supposed to be entered in one of a few blank columns provided for that purpose. Under these circumstances it will be readily understood that the completeness of these for each district is dependent upon the care and scrutiny of the collector. It is very probable that the foregoing returns of other fruit are short of the actual production.

OTHER VEGETABLES.

Particulars respecting these will be found in the special table in the Appendix. A summary of the chief items is given in the following table:—

X.

	1904.		1905.	
	Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.
Beans	72	6,366 bushels	107	10,106 bushels
Cabbages and Cauliflowers ...	459	177,461 dozen	444	150,703 dozen
Cucumbers	257	101,139 dozen	223	85,873 dozen
Onions	55	3,611 cwt.	96	4,565 cwt.
Peas	76	6,233 bushels	89	5,597 bushels
Tomatoes	318	34,882 bushels	402	45,868 bushels
Turnips	172	1,245 tons	148	733 tons
Yams	87	73 tons	65	43 tons

A large quantity of vegetables that can quite well be grown in Queensland are still imported from the southern States. In the aggregate, there was a considerably greater area under the eight crops above recorded in 1905 than in 1904, but the total area of 1,574 acres in the former year is itself a very inconsiderable one. Onions and tomatoes showed substantial increases of area, but the firstnamed, unfortunately, did not return a relatively increased production.

MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.

Table XI. in the Appendix furnishes full information as to crops not specially returned in the principal tables, but being there included under the head of "Other Crops" only.

BROOM MILLET.—This is among the most important of the miscellaneous crops. Last year the area sown exceeded that for 1904 by 21 per cent. The following table compares the crops for the two years in question:—

X a.

Division and District.	BROOM.				Increase or Decrease. —	Increase or Decrease. —	AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE.	
	1904.		1905.				1904.	1905.
	Acres.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.				
Rockingham— Herberton	15	4,500	2	2,300	— 13	— 2,200	300	1,150
Edgumbe— Bowen	1	672	1	600	...	— 72	672	600
Burnett and Wide Bay— Bundaberg	4	3,330	3	2,000	— 1	— 1,330	833	667
Moreton— Beaudesert	15	7,220	24	16,592	9	9,372	481	691
Brisbane ... ..	...	...	2	1,000	2	1,000	...	500
Dugandan	48	31,220	30	21,048	— 18	— 10,172	650	702
Gatton	14	9,438	39	22,867	25	13,429	674	586
Ipswich ... ..	...	...	8	20,000	8	20,000	...	2,500
Laidley	57	32,364	116	55,016	59	22,652	568	474
Logan	58	52,945	45	31,108	— 13	— 21,837	913	691
Nerang	11	5,500	5	2,450	— 6	— 3,050	500	490
Rosewood ... ..	...	...	1	800	1	800	...	800
Downs— Allora ... ..	...	...	1	1,792	1	1,792	...	1,792
Killarney	3	2,240	3	11,000	...	8,760	747	3,667
Toowoomba	9	6,720	15	7,142	6	422	737	476
Warwick	6	2,000	...	...	— 6	— 2,000	333	...
Other Districts— Springsure	2	800	...	...	— 2	— 800	400	...
Total	243	158,949	295	195,715	52	36,766	654	663

From 243 acres in 1904, 158,949 lb. of broom millet were obtained, the corresponding figures for 1905 being 295 acres, 195,715 lb.; the average yields for the two years being—1904, 654 lb.; 1905, 663 lb. to each acre. Broom millet is principally cultivated in the Moreton division, the focus being around Laidley.

There was a great advance last year both in the quantity of broom millet worked up into brooms, and also as to the proportion of it that was Queensland grown. This may be seen from the following table:—

X b.

Year.								Total.	Queensland Grown.	Grown Elsewhere.
								Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139,440	34,720	104,720
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	172,127	34,828	137,299
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,352	32,564	43,788
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	123,757	88,678	35,079
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	202,869	186,672	16,197
Mean of Five Years								142,909	75,492	67,417

In 1905 there were 202,869 lb. of millet used in the various broom factories of the State, or 30,742 lb. more than in 1902, the year of next greatest consumption; but whilst in 1902 only 34,828 lb., or 20 per cent. of the total, was Queensland grown, in 1905, 186,672 lb., or 92 per cent. of the whole, was produced in the State.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.—Lucerne left to seed for sowing the large areas of this plant, for cutting as green forage or for mowing for hay, occupied 1,017 acres in 1905, from which 247,700 lb. of seed were obtained. This is not a large return, but lucerne is frequently left for seeding, only after some years of continuous growth for fodder, and in the later stage of its growth would not be so luxurious as if reserved specially for seed at an earlier period of its existence.

CANARY SEED.—A great extension was shown in the area under this crop—viz., from 254 acres in 1904 to 617 acres in 1905. The yield, however, was comparatively poor, only 186,736 lb. being obtained. This crop is confined to the Downs division.

MANGEL WURZEL.—There were 148 acres planted with this valuable root crop last year, from which 1,124 tons were obtained. In 1904, there were 197 acres planted, yielding 1,914 tons, or average returns of 7.6 tons and 9.7 tons respectively to each acre.

Other crops recorded were—peanuts, 57 acres, 79,484 lb.; grass seed, 44 acres, 20,624 lb.; sisal hemp and ramie, 26 acres, no return yet; cow pea, 22 acres, 397 bushels; and cassava, 6 acres, 60 tons.

HAY CROPS.

These are fully dealt with in detail in Appendix Tables Nos. VI., VII., and XII., a summary from which, with respect to the principal varieties of hay crops, is furnished in the following table:—

Y.

								Area.		Increase or Decrease —	Production.		Increase or Decrease —
								1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.	
								Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,137	2,856	— 281	3,608	2,295	— 1,313
Oats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,076	4,446	— 4,630	11,549	4,983	— 6,566
Lucerne	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35,009	28,564	— 6,445	62,970	47,017	— 15,953
Other	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,518	1,559	41	2,535	2,534	— 1
Total								48,740	37,425	— 11,315	80,662	56,829	— 23,833

Last year lucerne occupied more than three-fourths of the whole of the land under hay; in 1904 the ratio was not quite so large. In 1905 there were 37,425 acres mown for hay of all kinds, against 48,740 acres in the previous year, a decrease of 11,315 acres. The hay harvested amounting to 56,829 tons in the former and 80,662 tons in the latter year, or a decrease of 23,833 tons. The average yields to each acre for the two years for hay of all kinds was—1904, 1.65 tons; and 1905, 1.52 tons respectively. In 1905, of the total area of 37,425 acres, 28,564 acres were under lucerne, 4,446 were under oats, 2,856 under wheat, leaving only 1,559 acres for all other kinds of hay crops. The average return per acre for each of the three crops mentioned were—lucerne, 1.65 tons; oats, 1.12 tons; and wheat, 0.80 tons.

GREEN FORAGE CROPS.

As might be expected with the expansion of the dairying industry, the culture of forage increases. In 1905, 30,322 more acres than in 1904 were so treated, wheat being accountable for 13,281 acres; lucerne, 6,846 acres; oats, 1,379 acres; and other kinds which would include barley, 8,816 acres of the increase. It is probable that, with respect to wheat and barley, the figures would not have been so large except for climatic reasons, the crops in question having been cut green in despair of it ever reaching maturity; attention has been called to these points under their respective headings.

ARTIFICIALLY SOWN PASTURE.

This valuable adjunct to the business of the farmer is finding increased favour. Corresponding to the meadow land of the old country, it is in like manner utilised now for grazing and then shut up for a while for the purpose of taking off a crop of hay. It naturally follows that, depending on the will of the owner, the fluctuations in the areas so treated are greater than with annually sown crops; moreover, as land

utilised in this manner is not included in the cultivated area, the determination of the farmer affects also the total area tabulated as under cultivation. In 1905, there were 40,802 acres so described, the area in 1904 being 35,589 acres, and in 1903 only 15,639 acres, the greater portion being laid down in lucerne; the effect on the cultivated area, following on the manner in which the crop was utilised, can be readily understood. The following table furnishes information as to the areas returned as under artificial pasture for each of the past two years:—

Z.

District.	1904.	1905.	Increase, 1905.	Decrease, 1905.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Allora ...	1,047	935	...	112
Beaudesert ...	335	368	33	...
Clifton ...	3,845	7,645	3,800	...
Crow's Nest ...	5,303	4,407	...	896
Dalby ...	888	1,841	953	...
Dugandan ...	315	73	...	242
Esk ...	991	429	...	562
Gatton ...	2,348	2,267	...	81
Herberton ...	1,406	1,511	105	...
Highfields ...	963	205	...	758
Ipswich ...	480	45	...	435
Killarney ...	278	271	...	7
Maroochy ...	2,602	3,203	601	...
Nanango ...	1,305	1,476	171	...
Nerang ...	695	1,486	791	...
Toowoomba ...	8,334	7,738	...	596
Warwick ...	2,685	5,024	2,339	...
Woodford ...	766	789	23	...
All other Districts ...	1,003	1,089	86	...
Total State ...	35,589	40,802	5,213	...

ENSILAGE.

The silo is not much in use as a method of preserving fodder, and declined by 30 per cent. last year. Particulars for 1904 and 1905 will be found in the following table:—

Z a.

District.	1904.	1905.	Increase, 1905.	Decrease, 1905.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Allora ...	250	400	150	...
Brisbane ...	15	...	...	15
Cairns ...	60	80	20	...
Clifton ...	13	...	...	13
Crow's Nest ...	28	...	...	28
Dalby ...	...	30	30	...
Esk ...	2	...	...	2
Gatton ...	...	32	32	...
Gladstone ...	2	...	...	2
Inglewood ...	27	5	...	22
Ipswich ...	...	20	20	...
Laidley ...	10	...	...	10
Nerang ...	...	100	100	...
Rockhampton ...	1,100	...	...	1,100
Springsure ...	...	30	30	...
Toowoomba ...	193	230	37	...
Warwick ...	...	272	272	...
Roma ...	35	...	...	35
Total ...	1,735	1,199	...	536

Three-fourths of the total quantity of ensilage was contributed by the Downs farmers.

I am indebted to the Chief Compiler, Mr. Shackel, for assistance in the preparation of this Report.

THORNHILL WEEDON, F.S.S.,
Government Statistician.

Government Statistician's Office,
Brisbane, 26th July, 1906.

APPENDIX.

Table No. I.

RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE VARIOUS PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS OF THE STATE, TOGETHER WITH THE INCREASE AND DECREASE OF CATTLE AND SHEEP ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1905.

Petty Sessions District.	Horses.	Cattle.				Sheep.				Pigs.
		1904.	1905.	1905.		1904.	1905.	1905.		
				Increase.	Decrease.			Increase.	Decrease.	
	1905.									1905.
Adavale	1,884	11,523	8,371	...	3,152	346,039	340,749	...	5,290	32
Allora... ..	2,566	8,302	9,726	1,424	...	16,584	23,276	6,692	...	3,359
Alpha	2,677	5,653	6,560	907	...	30,098	155,341	125,243	...	335
Aramac	1,158	2,702	2,250	...	452	123,986	265,029	141,043	...	51
Augathella	1,642	8,165	10,728	2,563	...	151,383	200,575	49,192	...	86
Ayr	4,566	27,382	20,231	...	7,151	307	351	44	...	900
Banana	2,449	20,231	26,679	6,448	...	14,752	30,559	15,807	...	152
Barcaldine	2,639	5,423	5,423	...	...	494,157	603,222	109,065	...	195
Beaudesert	4,459	45,853	53,601	7,748	...	643	708	65	...	7,212
Biggenden	1,642	6,106	5,699	...	407	603	2,234	1,631	...	1,265
Blackall	3,299	6,836	4,216	...	2,620	445,567	566,757	121,190	...	236
Bollon	3,239	19,875	22,834	2,959	...	343,108	421,134	78,026	...	123
Boulia	5,657	76,062	69,331	...	6,731	84,188	70,889	...	13,299	22
Bowen	10,554	66,345	77,450	11,105	...	4,436	5,547	1,111	...	915
Brisbane	8,017	11,888	13,406	1,518	...	322	548	226	...	3,569
Bundaberg	6,352	19,448	20,919	1,471	...	199	143	...	56	3,297
Burke	6,789	108,593	126,541	17,948	...	953	997	44	...	156
Caboolture	963	5,662	6,389	727	...	136	195	59	...	1,009
Cairns	2,877	3,452	3,719	267	...	280	167	...	113	1,190
Camooeweal	2,498	35,763	41,175	5,412	...	15,000	18,927	3,927	...	9
Cape River	4,271	30,506	40,307	9,801	...	20	25,320	25,300	...	329
Cardwell	1,200	5,683	6,294	611	...	...	...	...	...	58
Charleville	4,473	21,775	34,808	13,033	...	227,267	334,469	107,202	...	327
Charters Towers	12,882	84,258	88,325	4,067	...	1,967	538	...	1,429	1,174
Childers	2,457	4,552	5,609	1,057	...	14	714	700	...	2,169
Clermont	5,683	20,931	32,761	11,830	...	283,780	376,211	92,431	...	757
Cleveland	514	829	1,013	184	...	1	...	...	1	341
Clifton	4,430	8,202	11,486	3,284	...	49,385	57,731	8,346	...	3,555
Cloncurry	7,594	106,988	94,815	...	12,173	242,350	279,179	36,829	...	187
Coen	2,200	6,866	7,642	776	...	...	...	...	...	91
Condamine	1,340	8,823	10,717	1,894	...	5,739	22,817	17,078	...	438
Cook	3,923	25,724	22,507	...	3,217	...	...	...	...	492
Crow's Nest	3,098	16,091	18,790	2,699	...	546	920	374	...	5,046
Croydon	2,434	24,643	21,604	...	3,039	...	...	...	...	229
Cunnamulla	3,015	6,120	8,042	1,922	...	785,993	868,587	82,594	...	229
Dalby	8,898	28,419	35,478	7,059	...	439,454	561,888	122,434	...	4,777
Diamantina	2,264	32,006	23,791	...	8,215	1,463	4,375	2,912	...	...
Douglas	847	544	401	...	140	...	...	...	...	82
Dugandan	3,348	24,469	27,439	2,970	...	285	289	4	...	6,239
Eidsvold	3,994	42,264	45,037	2,773	...	15,510	20,758	5,248	...	226
Emerald	1,521	2,597	5,222	2,625	...	6,036	17,226	11,190	...	513
Esk	5,745	61,421	66,608	5,187	...	1,237	1,348	111	...	4,348
Etheridge	7,196	106,372	105,324	...	1,048	...	...	...	...	131
Eulo	619	3,769	6,988	3,219	...	130,635	152,379	21,744	...	70
Gatton	5,834	28,788	32,135	3,347	...	401	377	...	24	8,388
Gayndah	4,351	44,424	53,853	9,429	...	1,220	2,305	1,085	...	703
Gin Gin	3,533	26,211	31,075	4,864	...	400	522	122	...	1,191
Gladstone	10,215	76,778	85,316	8,538	...	3,594	4,766	1,172	...	2,049
Goodna	589	1,621	1,958	337	...	40	97	57	...	368
Goondiwindi	2,239	10,921	19,284	8,363	...	231,092	299,893	68,801	...	486
Gympie	5,320	31,931	36,076	4,145	...	118	186	68	...	3,301
Harrisville	2,392	17,055	18,590	1,535	...	166	368	202	...	4,375
Herberton	9,238	54,937	53,324	...	1,613	84	170	86	...	1,074
Highfields	2,409	10,631	11,578	947	...	3,545	5,353	1,808	...	3,363
Hughenden	4,512	39,186	40,203	1,017	...	274,554	406,381	131,827	...	257
Hungerford	609	587	774	187	...	98,795	108,514	9,719	...	24
Ingham	6,281	22,218	24,488	2,270	...	151	173	22	...	2,846
Inglewood	1,871	13,548	19,095	5,547	...	106,787	134,508	27,721	...	852
Ipswich	4,844	18,821	21,074	2,253	...	597	535	...	62	3,665
Isisford	2,863	4,473	1,495	...	2,978	368,944	320,510	...	48,434	33
Jundah	1,036	8,289	7,467	...	822	163,890	155,644	...	8,246	21
Kilkivan	3,600	39,030	47,179	8,149	...	2,767	3,093	326	...	1,235
Killarney	1,992	5,137	6,842	1,705	...	1,972	2,080	108	...	1,500
Laidley	3,776	12,342	16,279	3,937	...	383	600	217	...	6,724
Logan	2,597	9,931	11,507	1,576	...	104	109	5	...	1,861
Longreach	4,950	9,095	9,172	77	...	949,597	761,622	...	187,975	185
Mackay	17,586	50,168	56,549	6,381	...	14,195	17,181	2,986	...	2,125
Marburg	1,671	8,871	9,105	234	...	...	...	...	...	4,493
Mareeba	1,102	1,490	1,457	...	33	20	35	15	...	89
Maroochy	1,872	6,612	8,023	1,411	...	212	277	65	...	1,505
Maryborough... ..	4,881	14,497	17,122	2,625	...	364	453	89	...	1,963
Mitchell	4,335	32,467	42,104	9,637	...	91,810	125,989	34,179	...	836
Mount Morgan	4,003	6,610	7,658	1,048	...	220	231	11	...	499
Mourilyan	893	1,259	1,293	34	...	68	48	...	20	735
Muttaborra	4,286	13,770	14,429	659	...	806,248	986,211	179,963	...	77
Nanango	5,995	41,856	48,622	6,766	...	8,569	7,108	...	1,461	3,309
Nerang	2,318	11,651	13,189	1,538	...	248	351	103	...	2,958
Norman	6,722	210,186	187,263	...	22,923	200	...	...	200	212
Palmer	1,144	2,332	3,301	969	...	...	...	...	...	16
Ravenswaod... ..	2,651	8,297	6,565	...	1,732	30	50	20	...	288
Redcliffe	1,950	10,880	11,905	1,025	...	11	11	...	...	2,635
Richmond	4,951	87,787	76,170	...	11,617	516,363	537,700	21,337	...	208
Rockhampton	20,974	104,331	122,117	17,786	...	10,012	11,655	1,643	...	6,822

Table No. I.—continued.

Petty Sessions District.	Horses.	Cattle.				Sheep.				Pigs.
		1904.	1905.	1905.		1904.	1905.	1905.		
				Increase.	Decrease.			Increase.	Decrease.		1905.
Roma	4,999	27,457	32,900	5,443	...	196,134	180,128	...	16,006	1,501
Rosewood	2,709	16,680	20,242	3,562	...	286	392	106	...	4,485
St. George	3,315	10,738	13,806	3,068	...	372,671	699,069	326,398	...	296
St. Lawrence	4,554	24,587	32,673	8,086	...	299	992	693	...	278
Somerset	163	627	656	29	...	11	...	...	11	223
South Brisbane	4,133	6,957	7,765	808	...	370	387	17	...	2,761
Southwood	412	1,882	3,064	1,182	...	31,713	42,636	10,923	...	68
Springsure	4,250	27,983	39,981	11,998	...	131,181	211,481	80,300	...	646
Stanthorpe	2,232	16,196	18,298	2,102	...	56,762	90,759	33,997	...	604
Surat	1,544	5,477	9,712	4,235	...	210,971	262,922	51,951	...	148
Tambo	1,852	5,823	6,325	502	...	272,476	371,288	98,812	...	61
Taroom	2,529	27,905	34,417	6,512	...	20,702	47,303	26,601	...	166
Tenningering	1,815	12,708	13,127	419	...	115	173	58	...	335
Texas	1,283	7,887	9,440	1,553	...	4,835	7,262	2,427	...	306
Thargomindah	4,792	40,968	40,497	...	471	123,484	141,456	17,972	...	71
Thornborough	3,817	37,147	36,714	...	433	...	...	...	...	339
Tiaro	4,980	30,487	35,323	4,836	...	364	519	155	...	2,284
Toowoomba	13,332	45,262	53,062	7,800	...	456,113	554,252	98,139	...	11,110
Townsville	7,745	16,357	19,821	3,464	...	42	98	56	...	1,485
Warwick	7,705	34,016	40,527	6,511	...	129,965	148,813	18,848	...	5,586
Windorah	1,636	10,682	13,981	3,299	...	70,519	72,008	1,489	...	24
Winton	4,993	22,121	23,928	1,807	...	839,160	368,837	...	470,323	81
Woodford	2,842	19,571	21,461	1,890	...	592	566	...	26	1,698
Yeulba	675	4,688	4,080	...	608	2,511	6,687	4,176	...	279
Total in State in 1905	430,565	...	2,963,695	...	...	...	12,535,231	...	...	164,087
Total in State in 1904	413,165	2,722,340	...	...	...	10,843,470	...	...	...	185,141
Increase in 1905	17,400	...	...	241,355		...	...	1,691,761		...
Decrease in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		21,054
Centesimal Increase in 1905	4.21	...	...	8.87		...	...	15.60		...
Centesimal Decrease in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		11.27

Table No. II.

RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE VARIOUS PASTORAL DISTRICTS OF THE STATE FOR THE YEARS 1904 AND 1905, TOGETHER WITH THE NUMERICAL AND CENTESIMAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE LATTER YEAR.

Pastoral District.	Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Numerical Increase or Decrease—				Centesimal Increase or Decrease—			
						Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Burke ...	{ 1904	34,176	554,723	1,000,517	1,446	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	33,412	531,552	1,118,573	1,258	— 764	— 23,171	118,056	— 188	— 2.24	— 4.18	11.80	— 13.00
Burnett ...	{ 1904	19,088	174,880	26,026	8,455	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	19,953	200,054	33,221	6,624	865	25,174	7,195	— 1,831	4.53	14.40	27.65	— 21.66
Cook ...	{ 1904	31,578	247,205	379	4,737	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	32,213	238,450	250	4,462	635	— 8,755	— 129	— 275	2.01	— 3.54	— 34.04	— 5.81
Darling Downs ...	{ 1904	47,172	200,329	1,533,996	41,853	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	50,741	249,791	1,951,325	36,026	3,569	49,462	417,329	— 5,827	7.57	24.69	27.21	— 13.92
Gregory North ...	{ 1904	13,754	117,746	947,586	141	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	12,327	109,815	465,917	111	— 1,427	— 7,931	— 481,669	— 30	— 10.38	— 6.74	— 50.83	— 21.28
Gregory South ...	{ 1904	4,985	47,917	146,211	204	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	5,209	45,157	161,648	85	224	— 2,760	15,437	— 119	4.49	— 5.76	10.56	— 58.33
Leichhardt ...	{ 1904	28,970	191,762	257,861	7,105	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	30,680	234,550	403,809	6,548	1,710	42,788	145,948	— 557	5.90	22.31	56.60	— 7.84
Maranoa ...	{ 1904	14,585	83,236	1,216,040	4,960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	17,363	103,557	1,694,487	3,149	2,778	20,321	478,447	— 1,811	19.05	24.41	39.34	— 36.51
Mitchell ...	{ 1904	22,652	77,684	3,582,770	1,069	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	23,059	73,162	4,009,347	813	407	— 4,522	426,577	— 256	1.80	— 5.82	11.91	— 23.95
Moreton ...	{ 1904	62,381	341,336	8,958	74,211	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	64,132	386,014	10,128	73,809	1,751	44,678	1,170	— 402	2.81	13.09	13.06	— 0.54
North Kennedy ...	{ 1904	48,651	257,890	6,563	8,762	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	49,840	277,812	22,807	7,929	1,189	19,922	16,244	— 833	2.44	7.72	247.51	— 9.51
Port Curtis ...	{ 1904	23,226	139,964	9,776	6,564	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	24,424	173,229	9,567	4,734	1,198	— 33,265	— 209	— 1,830	5.16	23.77	— 2.14	— 27.88
South Kennedy ...	{ 1904	22,326	90,234	222,223	4,148	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	23,986	102,610	389,039	3,131	1,660	12,376	166,816	— 1,017	7.44	13.72	75.07	— 24.52
Warrego ...	{ 1904	12,459	64,143	1,882,725	795	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	14,720	83,890	2,262,176	823	2,261	19,747	379,451	28	18.15	30.79	20.15	— 3.52
Wide Bay ...	{ 1904	27,162	133,291	1,839	20,691	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ 1905	28,506	154,052	2,937	14,585	1,344	20,761	1,098	— 6,106	4.95	15.58	59.71	— 29.51

Table No. III.

RETURN of LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED for PRESERVATION as Food, or FREEZING, or for TALLOW, in the STATE, during the YEARS 1896-1905, with the Quantity and Value of MEAT, TALLOW, LARD, &c., produced.

Year.					Number of Establishments.	Average Number of Hands Employed.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.			† Hogs.	MEAT PRESERVED OR FROZEN.								Extract and Essence of Meat Produced.	Quantity of Tallow Produced.	Quantity of Lard Produced.	Total Value of all Products shown here.		
							Cattle.				Sheep.			Beef.			Mutton.						† Bacon and Hams.	† Pork, Salt and Fresh.
							For Freezing.	For Preserving.	For Boiling Down.		For Freezing.	For Preserving.	For Boiling Down.	Frozen.	Fresh Preserved.	Salted.	Frozen.	Preserved.						
1896	...	...	...	...	35	2,838	76,483	77,719	87,562	100,550	262,151	430,696	No. 67,034	lb. 50,245,213	lb. 19,014,648	lb. 182,586	4,571,086	2,914,902	5,108,726	1,220,034	517,011	tons. 12,736	lb. 203,972	£ 980,772
1897	...	...	...	...	38	2,604	111,267	62,342	85,754	70,865	259,536	615,454	76,719	62,764,267	34,931,056	106,499	2,952,290	1,970,959	6,103,485	1,191,345	463,386	13,651	167,743	785,539
1898	...	...	...	...	46	2,876	112,940	65,966	147,528	61,258	69,006	146,845	85,510	64,676,868	23,209,919	1,972,000	2,355,030	967,363	6,973,007	878,901	1,593,285	13,609	216,194	548,651
1899	...	...	...	...	47	3,156	117,668	140,815	127,983	119,964	144,345	215,509	101,704	78,173,578	46,031,300	1,192,152	4,966,390	2,616,318	7,147,760	975,302	1,925,193	19,165	222,460	1,101,004
1900	...	...	...	...	33	2,540	150,057	108,975	21,022	50,719	75,887	25,049	90,608	91,006,191	33,111,290	1,153,285	2,285,758	1,379,785	7,685,446	696,062	759,193	9,657	381,695	1,068,623
1901	...	...	...	...	26	1,879	140,011	57,447	2,285	64,121	67,692	301	104,017	90,053,829	29,732,204	173,716	3,337,332	2,827,247	7,064,714	662,500	333,014	8,231	405,181	1,729,082
1902	...	...	...	...	22	1,548	132,166	51,205	2,471	117,729	189,025	2,251	88,416	85,743,229	22,543,999	479,138	5,225,727	*5,374,696	6,512,952	841,673	192,781	5,237	197,990	1,835,665
1903	...	...	...	...	16	999	108,343	16,149	922	102,007	13,309	110	54,712	66,483,364	9,773,112	73,924	4,906,991	498,416	4,145,900	940,489	100,720	3,661	273,257	1,437,701
1904	...	...	...	...	17	1,059	51,108	19,066	579	90,828	10,206	...	106,633	36,514,333	10,227,433	400,237	4,598,825	470,645	6,514,852	2,131,647	59,091	4,290	314,489	952,388
1905	{ Metropolitan Bowen Charters Towers Gatton Gladstone Goodna Rockhampton Townsville Warwick	7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	15	1,516	66,288	14,315	156	267,248	20,186	65	153,136	47,846,259	9,982,659	57,421	12,381,958	779,122	10,500,335	2,282,881	58,803	4,179	522,190	1,132,226		

* Includes 3,970 lb. salted.

† Pigs killed by farmers, and pork and bacon made therefrom, are included in this table.

Table No. IV.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of CATTLE, SHEEP, &C., SLAUGHTERED (under the supervision of Inspectors of Slaughter-Houses only) for CONSUMPTION as FOOD in the STATE, together with the AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT of each ANIMAL and the ESTIMATED QUANTITY CONSUMED PER CAPITA, for FIVE YEARS, ending 31st DECEMBER, 1905 (exclusive of Factories engaged in Slaughtering for Preservation).

YEARS.						*POPULATION. Estimated for the Year.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.					AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT.					CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA.					
							Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Hogs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Hogs.	Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Lamb.	Pork.	Total.
												lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	488,382	161,480	411,100	16,210	11,491	35,556	602	46	62	32	86	199	39	2	0·75	6·26	247·01
1902	...	...	...	...	...	493,117	148,970	399,412	9,919	7,026	33,387	540	35	58	25	77	163	28	1	0·36	5·21	197·57
1903	...	...	...	...	...	497,794	132,237	335,610	4,772	2,630	25,644	577	46	60	34	82	153	31	0·57	0·18	4·22	188·97
1904	...	...	...	...	...	503,574	133,368	297,103	6,594	2,551	27,852	655	50	58	33	84	173	29	0·76	0·17	4·65	207·58
1905	...	...	...	...	...	508,123	129,191	294,732	4,512	5,175	32,653	662	48	62	34	77	168	28	0·55	0·35	4·97	201·87

* The figures quoted in this column refer to the estimated number of consumers calculated on data in the Statistical Department.

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Table No. V.

OTHER PRODUCTS OF MEAT PRESERVING, &C., ESTABLISHMENTS in the STATE—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	No.	Manure.		Edible Fats.		Hides.		Skins.		Bones.		Horns and Hoofs.	Hair.		Oils, &c.		All Other Products.*	Total Value.
		Tons.	£	lb.	£	Number.	£	Number.	£	Tons.	£	£	lb.	£	Gallons.	£		£
1896	...	35	7,321	13,627	597,000	1,950	239,305	141,559	770,482	119,370	683	2,808	2,288	1,238	39,220	2,350	...	285,190
1897	...	38	10,738	24,654	673,385	8,455	259,160	161,979	928,330	125,043	954	3,696	3,307	1,848	76,539	1,819	...	330,801
1898	...	46	15,072	36,133	1,083,523	14,189	325,933	227,175	275,824	39,736	991	4,685	5,615	1,871	72,358	2,899	...	332,303
1899	...	47	17,347	56,446	985,121	13,163	395,929	337,931	524,215	97,016	1,265	6,363	10,819	2,359	92,487	2,831	...	526,928
1900	...	27	9,519	31,518	1,362,786	19,792	265,051	235,239	191,445	28,850	655	3,739	12,900	2,001	39,089	2,022	9,073	345,134
1901	...	18	4,937	21,999	1,382,080	21,244	182,708	180,673	187,126	14,847	522	2,873	5,321	1,820	34,670	2,218	8,668	259,663
1902	...	18	3,654	14,274	1,191,572	21,572	178,090	170,874	275,176	26,311	578	3,824	3,649	860	16,310	2,283	6,613	243,647
1903	...	12	2,215	9,973	1,033,491	16,807	130,639	135,518	150,900	21,466	625	3,660	4,667	797	17,819	1,296	15,019	209,123
1904	...	12	1,763	8,667	377,105	5,109	76,677	86,505	124,251	19,023	159	1,001	3,069	813	7,242	753	20,912	145,852
1905	...	12	1,566	8,466	1,036,602	15,727	90,184	92,405	308,017	63,937	167	1,033	3,717	894	7,144	826	21,724	208,729

* Not compiled prior to 1900.

Table No. VI

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1905.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.				Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.									
							Malting.	Other.																							
<i>Moreton Division.</i>	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Beaudesert	368	5,565	514	5,051	3,017	140	21	248	2	...	1	693	790	3	...	1	...	22	59	54		
Brisbane	40	5,175	291	4,884	...	2	...	...	555	...	...	201	249	173	...	...	1	...	...	327	1,216	268	28	353	776	53	458	224
Caboolture	25	1,602	266	1,336	...	...	...	...	593	...	...	100	101	11	...	...	...	...	...	47	171	4	3	5	55	62	29	155
Cleveland ... ..	...	899	51	848	...	...	3	...	6	...	...	5	24	9	...	...	...	...	...	12	49	12	2	68	291	32	237	98
Crow's Nest	4,407	8,675	828	7,847	379	...	113	3	4,686	1	...	536	7	392	...	...	...	...	...	154	1,492	10	2	...	...	17	47	8
Dugandan	73	10,400	20	10,380	3	...	...	...	7,538	...	...	89	9	1,094	24	...	...	...	...	586	923	12	...	13	2	12	53	22
Esk	429	4,123	141	3,982	...	...	...	...	2,099	...	...	82	124	594	...	...	...	...	...	314	684	19	1	...	...	30	21	14
Gatton	2,267	22,929	1,705	21,224	4	22	...	9	9,334	10	...	1,413	215	1,836	26	...	...	...	...	3,715	4,138	96	10	...	...	189	158	49
Goodna ... ..	...	543	28	515	...	...	...	...	223	...	...	19	1	42	17	...	...	...	...	123	59	8	1	...	...	13	1	8
Harrisville	38	7,943	518	7,425	...	...	...	...	4,412	...	...	63	60	291	31	...	...	...	...	1,266	1,227	16	2	1	...	15	31	10
Ipswich	45	4,322	316	4,006	...	...	...	...	1,453	...	...	80	45	112	8	...	...	...	...	603	1,578	18	3	6	1	13	39	47
Laidley	74	18,371	355	18,016	...	...	...	...	10,804	...	...	698	195	1,278	...	...	...	...	...	3,382	1,413	25	3	...	1	15	146	56
Logan ... ..	...	5,854	46	5,808	...	...	...	...	1,365	...	2	365	194	6	...	2,491	93	...	...	130	489	60	10	86	189	129	163	36
Marburg	60	8,310	126	8,184	...	...	...	...	3,528	...	...	51	126	533	...	543	1	...	...	51	3,052	22	10	12	...	11	56	188
Maroochy	3,203	6,292	174	6,118	...	...	...	...	812	...	...	53	69	15	...	3,085	18	...	38	30	200	10	4	448	171	730	142	284
Nerang	1,486	4,104	88	4,016	...	...	...	...	1,684	...	...	331	33	12	...	787	243	5	...	196	545	6	1	3	1	129	29	11
Redcliffe ... ..	...	3,518	25	3,493	...	...	...	...	1,735	...	...	228	138	18	...	...	...	...	...	299	820	26	...	150	28	29	16	6
Rosewood	11	7,041	794	6,247	...	...	...	...	2,742	4	...	57	46	201	...	...	3	...	...	622	2,487	52	...	...	...	1	16	16
South Brisbane	15	2,370	198	2,172	...	...	...	...	210	...	...	99	175	26	4	...	...	...	...	543	591	126	4	...	43	38	98	215
Woodford	789	1,021	21	1,000	...	1	...	...	602	...	...	41	32	56	...	...	3	...	...	37	129	8	...	...	...	18	16	57
Total Moreton ...	13,330	129,057	6,505	122,552	386	25	116	12	57,398	15	2	4,651	1,864	6,947	112	6,906	363	5	38	9	13,130	22,053	801	84	1,146	1,558	1,558	1,815	1,558		
<i>Downs Division.</i>																															
Allora	935	27,133	4,524	22,609	11,241	...	181	105	2,104	2	...	122	...	596	7	...	...	...	...	2,159	5,930	10	3	...	...	14	50	85
Clifton	7,645	45,410	9,079	36,331	20,639	63	2,359	4	4,557	...	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,828	2,514	22	1	...	...	2	272	34
Condamine	430	329	101	5	23	6	1	61	5		
Dalby	1,841	26,388	9,156	17,232	9,102	268	116	10	643	...	...	13	2	133	5	...	...	...	...	133	6,703	14	3	...	...	9	56	22
Goondiwindi ... ..	...	567	74	493	134	2	...	...	16	4	...	2	1	39	...	...	...	4	...	225	21	1	1	...	...	4	24	15
Highfields	205	14,558	2,818	11,740	2,070	23	46	29	6,038	1	...	271	...	126	...	...	...	...	...	583	2,408	29	5	...	...	11	75	25
Inglewood	8	2,113	532	1,581	609	26	...	4	212	...	...	27	...	69	...	...	...	162	...	290	169	2	1	...	...	...	1	9
Killarney	271	16,446	171	16,275	9,277	...	50	10	3,484	...	...	122	...	108	...	...	...	4	...	619	2,522	3	...	...	...	1	40	35
Southwood	20	...	20	20		
Stanthorpe	30	1,287	15	1,272	34	...	...	...	51	...	...	87	1	34	...	...	...	...	...	156	37	33	48	...	...	...	741	50
Texas ... ..	...	1,308	106	1,202	100	...	...	20	98	...	...	1	...	38	...	...	...	752	...	107	86	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	7,738	73,913	29,388	44,525	15,355	74	1,038	81	7,264	14	...	111	1	358	...	...	...	...	...	4,308	14,773	192	6	...	...	52	679	219
Warwick	5,024	41,719	2,775	38,944	22,112	52	761	255	6,044	21	...	315	4	731	...	...	...	4	...	4,403	3,004	57	6	...	...	1	1,036	138
Total Downs ...	23,697	251,292	58,967	192,325	90,678	508	4,551	518	30,534	42	...	1,107	9	2,238	12	...	...	926	...	18,832	38,228	368	74	...	...	94	2,974	632
<i>Maranoa Division.</i>																															
Bollon	5	...	5	5	
Mitchell	8,887	3,477	5,410	5,180	14	5	164	31	13	3		
Roma	40,345	16,402	23,943	20,637	...	2	...	253	1	...	19	2	13	190	2,321	296	119	8	16	66		
St. George	288	53	235	30	30	7	3	12	118	1	3	1	5	3	22		
Surat	1,033	1,003	30	30		
Yeulba	2,552	1,191	1,361	1,269	9	3	19	59	1	1	...		
Total Maranoa ...	...	53,110	22,126	30,984	27,146	...	2	...	306	1	...	34	5	25	...	...	...	...	...	491	2,412	313	120	...	...	13	20	96

Table No. VI.—continued.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.	
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.										
Rockingham Division.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carrins ...	27	15,434	680	14,754	919	...	...	...	905	...	18	6	59	3	15	...	106	2	...	76	...	...	1,389	71	114	50	22
Cardwell ...	...	919	...	919	...	...	...	...	79	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	610	1	201	16	...
Douglas ...	41	8,088	3	8,085	...	...	...	...	164	...	1	1	17	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	21	2	68	13	...
Herberton ...	...	7,015	19	6,986	...	...	...	...	6,476	...	2	39	43	17	4	...	6	...	206	...	...	...	7	3	31	30	...
Ingham ...	...	16,112	847	15,265	...	...	...	...	115	...	...	16	82	...	...	...	...	...	14,864	...	...	...	2	2	9	14	...
Maréeba ...	...	350	61	289	...	...	...	...	216	...	...	21	14	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	2	9	14	...
Montiyan	11,948	695	11,253	152	8	54	8,243	26	2,632	6	34	23	...		
Total Rockingham	1,581	59,866	2,305	57,561	8,107	...	21	91	274	21	24	30	2	157	10	213	185	1	...	4,673	84	465	152	159		
Edgecumbe Division.
Ayr	7,347	287	7,060	242	10	53	6,583	149	2	1	6	9	5		
Bowen ...	41	4,277	72	4,205	436	42	23	3,302	10	4	161	193	5		
Mackay	31,180	265	30,915	109	41	77	30,328	111	28	7	44	70	16		
Townsville ...	...	664	27	637	...	...	...	...	33	...	...	221	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	4	...	3	2	13	77	63
Total Edgecumbe	41	43,468	651	42,817	...	...	...	...	820	...	...	314	196	181	...	...	32	11	47	283	11	...	33	14	224	349	89
Port Curtis Division.
Gladstone ...	...	1,249	515	734	...	...	...	...	487	...	...	65	7	10	...	...	...	...	69	12	2	1	10	7	16	8	12
Mount Morgan	64	...	64	1	1	1	1,140	15	1	1	1	1	43		
Rockhampton ...	36	3,950	943	3,007	...	...	...	...	843	...	...	105	154	168	11	...	3	14	188	188	62	9	19	44	70	109	65
Total Port Curtis...	36	5,263	1,458	3,805	...	...	...	1	1,331	1	1	171	162	178	11	...	3	14	1,209	215	64	10	29	52	87	118	120
Burnett and Wide Bay Division.
Bigsden ...	39	2,936	632	2,304	1	1,641	55	63	319	6	51	135	4	6	3	20		
Bundaberg ...	42	27,148	1,978	25,170	1,966	46	106	87	446	421	30	39	50	251		
Childers ...	30	16,322	967	15,355	763	20	56	16	114	86	3	6	11	19	48		
Edswood ...	5	393	48	345	1	233	8	4	9	82	15	2	2	4	15		
Gayndah	604	279	325	187	24	34	39	29	
Gin Gin	6,846	985	5,861	959	18	23	52	50	79	1	
Gympie	4,481	622	3,856	1,856	44	922	207	
Kilgarvan	1,735	378	1,357	999	29	9	14	2	210	60	
Maryborough	3,756	102	3,654	392	99	117	408	333	
Nannango	6,984	485	6,469	1,089	3,976	53	7	47	265	1,007	
Tenninbar	64	6	58	31	1	9	5	4	
Tharo ...	113	4,457	413	4,044	1,223	200	21	69	1	300	330	...	5	
Total Burnett and Wide Bay	2,057	75,676	6,875	68,801	1,092	...	1	...	14,226	1	1	723	483	844	9	...	5	...	2,952	2,706	129	27	154	122	481	197	680			

Table No. VI.—continued.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.					
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.			Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.						Tobacco.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.		
							Malting.	Other.																					
<i>Other Districts.</i>	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			
Adavale	6	18	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Aramac	54	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Augathella	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Banana	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Baraldine	70	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	
Blackall ...	60	217	...	212	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Boulia	39	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	
Burke	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	
Cannoowal	48	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	
Cape River	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	
Charleville	43	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	
Charlton	71	...	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	
Charters Towers	120	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	
Clermont	443	...	397	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	
Cloncurry	29	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	
Coen	53	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Goek	442	...	429	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	
Groydon	59	...	59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	
Cunnamulla	107	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Diamantina			
Emerald	116	...	92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	
Etheridge	635	...	265	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	
Enlo	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hughenden	28	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	
Hungerford	148	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	
Isisford	17	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Jundah	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	
Longreach	36	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Murrumbidgee	21	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	
Murrumbidgee	70	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Norman	45	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Palmer	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Ravenswood	41	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Richmond	135	...	135	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
St. Lawrence	854	...	824	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	
Somerset	958	...	414	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	
Springsure	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Tambo	27	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	
Taroona	198	...	175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Thargomindah	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thorborough	29	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	
Winton			
Total Other Districts	60	5,255	1,352	3,903	54	998	...	8	79	236	172	3	551	101	30	12	163	15	156	705	620
Grand Total 1905 ...	40,802	622,987	100,239	522,748	119,356	533	4,670	531	113,720	60	33	7,170	3,229	10,606	171	134,107	393	933	235	44	37,425	66,183	327	6,198	1,845	3,078	6,330	3,864	
" 1904 ...	35,589	577,896	38,680	539,216	150,938	643	15,382	2,005	119,171	151	60	9,771	2,983	8,991	30	120,317	437	784	292	50	48,740	35,861	547	6,080	1,781	3,106	4,932	3,897	
Increase in 1905 ...	5,213	45,091	61,559	16,468	31,602	110	10,712	1,474	5,451	91	27	2,601	246	1,615	141	13,790	44	149	57	6	11,315	30,322	70	482	64	28	1,398	43	
Decrease in 1905	

Table No. VII.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR ended 31st DECEMBER, 1905.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																				
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar- Cane Crushed.	Sugar- Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
<i>Moreton Division.</i>	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Beaudesert ...	...	...	...	...	83,595	...	...	284	95	1,755	794	...	...	10	...	...	2,758	15,200	20	...	18,980
Brisbane ...	...	40	...	...	12,868	...	...	286	1,460	703	...	...	...	4	...	...	646	349,313	48,025	238,867	15,153
Caboolture ...	...	...	...	...	17,820	...	...	201	739	117	...	...	...	...	...	...	89	32,356	900	6,347	47,241
Cleveland ...	...	...	80	...	188	...	...	7	154	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	24,275	18,512	58,791	16,899
Crow's Nest ...	5,292	...	1,928	40	87,002	40	...	1,026	27	2,308	...	...	...	...	...	...	342	30,824	...	...	11,505
Dugandan ...	52	...	...	...	161,952	...	...	130	29	3,181	12,779	...	...	...	...	...	1,334	28,734	2,380	196	13,682
Esk ...	...	...	...	...	42,302	...	...	163	614	1,393	...	...	...	...	...	...	695	65,634	...	...	23,927
Gatton ...	94	440	...	144	148,821	100	...	1,794	1,148	7,680	21,425	...	...	...	...	...	7,752	204,150	...	...	217,208
Goodna ...	...	...	...	...	5,053	...	...	23	4	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	223	4,950	...	...	1,110
Harrisville ...	...	...	...	...	105,959	...	...	40	279	1,110	30,201	...	...	...	...	...	2,547	11,630	24	...	6,865
Ipswich ...	...	...	...	...	28,845	...	...	125	158	458	4,793	...	...	...	...	...	1,898	11,390	...	28	5,434
Laidley ...	...	...	...	...	191,073	...	...	1,071	753	4,683	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,059	29,246	...	100	4,683
Logan ...	...	...	...	...	31,132	...	35	461	844	18	...	1,869	29,355	957	...	...	328	99,374	15,476	58,993	114,631
Marburg ...	...	...	...	...	56,437	...	...	80	535	2,600	...	250	1,949	2	...	...	189	20,480	500	...	1,436
Maroochy ...	...	...	...	...	22,734	...	...	127	369	86	...	2,013	39,789	238	...	17,659	83	32,564	127,726	22,268	579,856
Nerang ...	...	...	...	...	46,377	...	...	684	354	73	...	636	10,356	2,848	53	...	378	21,420	94	400	15,592
Redcliffe ...	...	...	...	...	34,037	...	...	389	643	86	...	...	...	...	...	...	574	48,530	39,658	9,740	14,795
Rosewood ...	...	...	...	...	37,455	60	...	108	104	284	...	...	...	50	...	...	898	5,900	...	...	410
South Brisbane ...	...	...	...	...	4,585	...	...	106	1,323	105	1,011	...	...	...	...	...	857	269,412	...	11,027	8,443
Woodford ...	...	40	...	...	15,361	...	...	100	205	81	...	...	...	9	...	...	82	14,102	...	...	20,222
Total Moreton ...	5,438	520	2,008	184	1,133,596	200	35	7,205	9,837	26,854	78,283	4,768	81,449	4,118	53	17,659	29,744	1,319,484	253,315	406,755	1,138,072
<i>Downs Division.</i>																					
Allora ...	170,907	...	2,808	2,133	25,133	44	...	207	...	1,231	2,200	...	...	...	...	...	1,834	87,080	...	...	22,868
Clifton ...	200,421	822	24,172	20	57,747	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,394	38,470	...	...	3,510
Condamine ...	40	...	...	...	698	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4,990	...	...	...
Dalby ...	44,238	2,368	1,071	162	5,862	...	...	16	8	277	1,380	...	...	...	...	...	128	22,202	...	...	1,740
Goondiwindi ...	1,007	10	...	...	118	28	...	2	2	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	122	11,793	...	...	4,069
Highfields ...	15,829	144	320	116	78,241	5	...	371	...	281	...	...	...	...	29	...	769	100,566	...	...	18,325
Inglewood ...	7,190	164	...	16	5,510	...	...	48	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	2,089	478	23,005	...	...	...
Killarney ...	151,061	...	1,242	144	75,618	...	...	159	...	562	...	...	...	...	63	...	902	11,070	...	...	767
Southwood ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe ...	410	...	...	...	769	...	...	156	1	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	224	51,080	...	...	...
Texas ...	649	...	80	...	1,058	...	...	1	...	65	...	...	...	...	7,946	...	160	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba ...	139,906	878	8,825	1,017	104,775	64	...	152	1	1,029	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,409	492,192	...	...	73,588
Warwick ...	316,847	952	12,854	4,608	82,341	192	...	431	9	2,494	...	...	...	...	30	...	5,973	102,714	...	...	1,170
Total Downs ...	1,048,505	5,338	51,292	8,296	437,870	333	...	1,586	21	6,248	3,580	...	...	...	10,157	...	19,400	945,162	...	...	126,037
<i>Maranoa Division.</i>																					
Bollon ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	4,700	...	...
Mitchell ...	13,361	...	...	...	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108	289,040	...	4,566
Roma ...	55,475	...	20	...	848	6	...	25	3	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. George ...	252	...	...	...	190	...	...	6	5	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	15,420	...	...	7,300
Surat ...	152	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba ...	2,813	...	...	...	100	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	4,310	...	...	...
Total Maranoa ...	72,053	...	20	...	1,187	6	...	39	8	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	307	313,470	...	...	11,866

Table No. VII.—continued.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																				
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar- Cane Crushed.	Sugar- Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																		Lb.
<i>Rockingham Division.</i>	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Cairns ... ..	...	...	...	...	30,730	...	542	9	293	8	15,680	9,160	152,736	...	...	24,499	...	...	307,369	46,560	117,179
Cardwell ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,102	...	...	...	100	...	1,120	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	243,200	325	159,070
Douglas ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,076	...	40	2	68	...	...	6,141	80,769	...	...	5,016	...	...	3,010	425	57,972
Herberton ... ..	...	...	...	...	244,466	...	40	51	193	50	1,200	...	...	8	...	4,480	511	4,726	621	326	40,808
Ingham ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,673	...	...	13	409	...	...	11,173	128,273	...	...	...	...	...	380	28	6,142
Mareeba ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,860	...	...	28	45	1	...	...	...	...	...	120	4	...	1,200	...	1,220
Mourilyan ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,813	...	...	16	366	...	...	6,510	93,650	320	...	18,640	12	...	1,643,447	4,403	33,749
Total Rockingham ...	...	...	...	...	292,720	...	622	119	1,474	59	18,000	32,984	455,428	328	20	52,755	527	4,726	2,199,227	52,067	416,140
<i>Edgumbe Division.</i>																					
Ayr ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,475	...	...	18	199	...	...	4,423	85,066	...	...	...	...	...	110	120	...
Bowen ... ..	...	...	...	...	8,055	...	...	71	37	56	...	2,211	26,424	...	...	...	1	...	...	395	93,816
Mackay ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,619	...	...	122	272	48	...	20,762	285,545	...	...	9,516	43	16,512	4,308	646	32,685
Townsville ... ..	...	...	...	...	494	...	...	578	102	321	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	1,206	265	200	5,293
Total Edgumbe ...	...	...	...	...	15,643	...	...	789	610	425	...	27,396	397,035	...	...	9,516	72	17,718	4,683	1,361	131,794
<i>Port Curtis Division.</i>																					
Gladstone ... ..	...	...	...	...	9,847	...	...	145	20	59	...	24	152	...	...	...	131	6,859	100	1,177	5,850
Mount Morgan ... ..	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Rockhampton ... ..	...	...	...	12	12,613	7	12	128	567	391	1,885	...	...	...	...	800	1,155	78,507	2,825	6,650	31,190
Total Port Curtis ...	...	...	...	12	22,485	7	12	274	589	450	1,885	24	152	...	...	800	1,286	85,366	2,925	7,977	37,040
<i>Burnett and Wide Bay Division.</i>																					
Biggenden	16	...	...	...	27,475	...	...	68	279	768	7,392	...	...	...	...	...	69	7,880	...	...	1,951
Bundaberg ... ..	...	...	...	...	30,863	...	...	76	359	306	...	15,197	206,030	...	...	...	1,036	52,840	1,874	7,883	12,116
Childers ... ..	...	...	...	...	13,473	...	...	31	321	242	...	10,244	204,031	...	...	...	187	6,900	1,403	818	19,262
Eidsvold ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,625	...	...	7	10	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	7,832	...	...	978
Gayndah	7	...	...	...	2,175	...	...	4	96	112	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	2,785	...	...	2,960
Gin Gin ... ..	...	...	...	...	12,071	16	...	28	134	204	...	3,174	38,589	...	...	...	103	7,478	...	155	2,425
Gympie ... ..	...	...	...	...	51,989	...	16	381	168	299	...	136	2,279	...	...	...	1,274	34,551	270	...	36,951
Kilkivan ... ..	...	...	...	...	17,307	...	...	46	40	70	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	289	3,690	...	...	2,033
Maryborough ... ..	...	...	...	...	7,598	...	...	120	412	63	...	966	15,392	...	...	1,500	662	79,615	22,070	24,302	214,189
Nanango	10,642	...	4	...	52,229	...	...	100	37	308	...	...	...	...	...	...	442	12,988	...	...	7,720
Tenningering ... ..	...	...	...	...	934	...	...	1	66	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	680
Tiaro	20	...	...	...	30,174	...	...	325	80	263	748	1,204	15,360	...	...	...	690	14,067	880	2,569	25,282
Total Burnett and Wide Bay	10,685	...	4	...	247,913	16	16	1,187	2,002	2,672	10,140	30,921	481,681	...	...	1,500	4,866	230,626	26,497	35,727	326,547

Table No. VII.—continued.

DIVISIONS AND PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																				
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar- Cane Crushed.	Sugar- Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
<i>Other Districts.</i>	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Adavale	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500	...	...	405
Alpha	240	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,656	...	...	278
Aramac	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Augathella
Banana	10	...	...	...	...
Barcaldine	640	...	...	...	30	...	...	4	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	121	6,580	...	...	790
Blackall
Boulia	3	7	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	690	500	80	420
Burke
Camooeweal	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,310	...	...	6,690
Cape River	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,900	...	...	310
Charleville	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52,710	...	...	40,740
Charters Towers	3	13	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	84	2,755	...	...	2,680
Clermont	724	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cloncurry
Coen	750	...	...	1	37	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	367	156	...
Cook	5,781	...	200	5	204	54	1,120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,870	1,898	51,955
Croydon	137	...	...	...	...
Cunnamulla
Diamantina
Emerald	156	...	...	24	4	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	8,100	...	...	6,000
Etheridge	216	...	...	5	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	30	...
Eulo	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hughenden	1,950	...	...	18,000
Hungerford	70	4,050	...	...	...
Isisford
Jundah
Longreach	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,618
Muttaburra	11	5	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	600
Norman	100	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Palmer	313	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	360	11,500
Ravenswood
Richmond	9	6	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Lawrence	1,920	...	...	22	11	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	3,240	...	...	...
Somerses	60	...	...	2	84	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,541	121	...
Springsure	254	...	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	145	...	...	...	3,000
Tambo
Taroom	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2,650	...	...	125
Thargomindah	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,950	...	...	450
Thornborough	2,650	...	...	7	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1,166	351	1,400
Winton	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,150	...	...	1,300
Total Other Districts ...	640	...	...	...	13,280	...	200	109	433	302	1,120	...	...	...	...	...	627	101,191	22,621	2,996	148,451
Grand Total, 1905 ...	1,137,321	5,858	53,324	8,492	2,164,674	562	885	11,308	14,974	37,079	113,008	96,093	1,415,745	4,446	10,230	82,230	56,829	3,017,743	2,509,268	506,883	2,335,947
„ 1904 ...	2,149,663	15,137	296,446	35,326	2,542,766	1,729	1,638	19,231	14,026	30,970	25,832	82,741	1,326,989	4,094	7,125	132,554	80,662	3,087,835	1,976,806	453,799	2,819,669
Increase, 1905	948	6,109	87,176	13,352	88,756	352	3,105	...	...	...	532,462	53,084	...
Decrease, 1905 ...	1,012,342	9,279	243,122	26,834	378,092	1,167	753	7,923	...	...	...	...	...	...	50,324	23,833	70,092	...	...	...	483,722

Table No. VIII.

Showing the Total Extent of Land under Cultivation, and the Area under each Description of Crop in Queensland—Return for Ten Years.

Year.	AREA UNDER EACH DESCRIPTION OF CROP.																																									
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		SUGAR-CANE.		COFFEE.	VINES.		ORANGES.		MANGOES.		APPLES.		Other Crops.	*Market Gardens.	Other Gardens and Orchards.																			
	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.		Sweet.	Pumpkins and Melons.*	Cotton.	Area Crushed.	Total Area.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	*Bear- ing.				Total Area	Hay (all Kinds.)	Lucerne and Green Forage.	Bearing.	Total Area.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	*Bearing.	Total Area.	*Bearing.	Total Area.	*Bearing.	Total Area.	Strawberries.	*Bearing.	Total Area.	Other Crops.	*Market Gardens.	Other Gardens and Orchards.
						Malt- ing*.	Other.																																			
1886	336,775	14,097	322,678	35,831	1,881	...	1,132	115,715	345	600	7,672	3,131	...	280	66,630	88,631	381	735	180	311	35,764	19,509	1,842	2,020	4,477	823	...	...	1,791	...	205	27	...	74	3,569	...	3,306			
1887	386,259	14,402	371,857	59,875	1,834	...	2,077	109,721	470	445	8,197	3,581	...	48	65,432	89,641	391	735	180	311	38,220	19,903	1,881	2,167	4,828	909	...	...	2,196	...	235	32	...	86	3,057	...	3,876			
1888	409,287	46,033	363,254	46,219	271	1,933	991	102,835	299	863	7,361	3,666	7,604	1	72,391	111,012	465	617	199	432	35,263	26,980	1,727	2,020	5,264	1,130	...	...	2,272	...	214	87	...	157	1,169	...	3,501			
1889	455,645	34,899	420,746	52,527	714	6,011	1,463	110,489	198	319	10,766	3,919	10,167	...	79,435	110,657	431	745	223	495	38,939	35,514	1,746	2,030	5,802	994	...	...	2,324	...	245	75	...	132	2,044	...	3,761			
1890	480,372	22,975	457,397	79,304	385	6,312	1,231	127,974	151	271	11,060	3,614	14,332	...	72,651	108,535	401	665	283	537	42,497	41,445	1,734	1,919	5,772	939	2,045	2,882	3,349	411	121	140	238	2,351	2,328	3,887						
1901	507,317	23,857	483,460	87,232	1,535	6,818	4,957	116,983	246	205	9,948	3,390	14,448	...	78,160	112,031	399	768	370	457	63,055	39,793	1,691	1,941	5,792	1,020	1,941	3,083	3,353	383	139	190	278	3,514	2,171	3,682						
1902	478,121	292,738	275,383	1,380	78	163	297	88,923	22	38	2,809	1,847	2,573	8	59,102	85,338	296	722	314	396	20,068	31,279	1,302	1,559	5,266	1,101	2,085	2,166	3,141	384	420	65	189	333	2,166	2,171	3,682					
1903	621,693	55,104	566,589	138,096	2,808	16,730	6,131	133,099	315	49	6,752	3,054	13,833	2	60,375	111,516	383	754	292	342	78,333	26,576	1,486	2,194	6,680	1,781	1,790	2,936	3,106	377	91	279	443	4,290	2,563	1,647						
1904	577,398	53,104	524,294	150,958	530,216	15,382	2,005	119,171	151	60	9,771	2,983	8,891	30	82,731	120,317	427	754	292	342	48,740	35,861	1,647	2,194	6,680	1,781	1,790	2,936	3,106	377	91	279	443	4,290	2,563	1,647						
1905	622,987	100,239	522,748	119,356	533	4,670	531	113,720	60	33	7,170	3,229	10,606	171	96,093	134,107	393	933	235	279	57,425	66,183	1,717	2,044	6,198	1,845	1,850	3,078	295	374	173	282	537	5,246	2,089	1,766						

Table No. X.
AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN QUEENSLAND—RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

Year.	GRAIN CROPS.										POTATOES.		SUGAR.					Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	Grapes.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Mangoes.	Strawberries.	Apples.	* Market Gardens.	* Gardens and Orchards.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	* Pumpkins & Melons.	† Cotton.	* Tons of Cane per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Sugar per Acre Crushed.	Arrowroot (Tubers).															
			* Malting.	Other.																									
1896 ...	Bushels. 16-78	Bushels. 17-10	Bushels. ...	Bushels. 17-24	Bushels. 26-49	Bushels. 21-59	Bushels. 34-21	Tons. 2-40	Tons. 4-57	Tons. ...	Lb. 504	Tons. ...	Tons. 1-51	Tons. 8-42	Cwt. 8-68	Lb. 373	Tons. 1-95	Lb. 2,780	Doz. 3,810	Doz. 381	Doz. \$753	Doz. \$1,230	Quarts. 762	Doz. \$844	£ ...	£ ...			
1897 ...	16-86	17-17	...	24-00	25-55	17-72	29-19	2-26	4-88	...	416	12-30	1-50	7-39	7-55	453	1-96	2,564	3,416	387	\$741	\$1,525	1,379	\$505	...	...	
1898 ...	13-13	14-93	13-78	8-02	21-90	12-96	44-19	2-06	5-43	3-07	50	18-72	1-99	13-44	5-31	284	1-99	2,383	8,843	410	\$672	\$1,245	1,111	\$388	...	...	
1899 ...	11-70	15-00	16-64	12-59	17-79	12-08	29-08	2-11	5-08	3-74	...	14-81	1-55	10-83	8-79	470	1-75	1,850	6,257	404	\$611	\$780	2,136	Bushels \$25	...	...	
1900 ...	15-06	20-40	17-12	15-62	19-20	12-77	25-35	1-81	5-04	3-07	...	11-68	1-28	11-02	6-06	361	1-85	2,096	Bunches, 373	452	998	795	3,315	38	...	...	
1901 ...	19-40	27-50	28-39	16-84	21-96	20-33	25-47	2-25	5-05	3-90	...	15-10	1-55	10-20	7-61	352	1-94	2,403	401	353	969	1,037	2,073	44	22	10			
1902 ..	3-28	6-67	10-73	6-91	11-49	10-82	28-76	1-12	3-88	2-37	200	10-86	1-30	4-94	2-52	361	1-16	1,755	220	237	571	670	196	48	19	9			
1903 ...	17-65	25-18	22-81	20-95	14-45	26-98	20-58	2-62	4-39	3-30	750	13-65	1-52	13-04	0-80	265	1-74	1,590	169	228	711	1,229	1,758	66	18	10			
1904 ...	14-24	23-54	19-27	17-62	21-34	11-45	27-30	1-97	4-70	3-44	861	16-04	1-78	9-37	9-09	454	1-65	1,875	296	255	1,575	2,951	1,165	68	17	8			
1905 ...	9-53	10-99	11-42	15-99	19-03	9-37	26-82	1-58	4-64	3-50	661	14-73	1-59	11-31	10-96	350	1-52	1,758	405	275	1,263	3,087	799	62	18	8			
†	14-66	19-77	20-02	19-26	21-68	18-58	34-87	2-19	5-15	3-40	427	14-43	1-58	10-02	7-57	368	1-82	2,267	310	385	1,008	1,555	1,547	57	19	9			

* Not specially returned in earlier years.

† Ungrinned.

+ Average for twenty years (or since statistics have been collected).

§ On total area.

Table No. XI.

RETURN showing the AREA and PRODUCE obtained during the YEAR 1905 from CERTAIN OTHER CROPS, details of which are not included in the GENERAL TABLE.

DIVISION.	OTHER FRUITS.																	OTHER VEGETABLES.							OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.											
	Almonds.	Apples.	Apricots.	Cherries.	Cocoanuts.	Custard Apples.	Figs.	Gooseberries (Cape).	Lemons.	Mangoes.	Passion Fruit.	Pawpaw.	Peaches.	Pears.	Persimmons.	Plums.	Quinces.	Strawberries.	Nectarines.	Beans.	Cabbages and Cauliflowers.	Cucumbers.	Onions.	Peas.	Tomatoes.	Turnips.	Yams.	Broom Millet.	Canary Seed.	Cassava, Manioc, or Tapioca (Tubers).	Cow Pea.	Grass Seed.	Mangel-Wurzel.	Pea Nuts.	Sisal Hemp and Ramie.	Lucerne Seed.
Rockingham ...	...	4	...	...	8	...	...	...	8	59	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	29	2	...	...	3	1	...	2	...	4	...	...	...	27	...	...
Edgecumbe ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	87	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	65	...	2	141	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	7	1	...
Port Curtis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	33	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	23	1	1	...	5	12	...	...	...	...	8	...	16	1	...	...
Burnett and Wide Bay	...	3	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	75	1	...	21	...	1	15	1	11	...	...	15	1	3	6	2	12	...	3	...	2	...	...	8	...	12	...
Moreton ...	...	29	4	...	...	20	2	6	19	87	33	5	127	5	9	68	...	161	1	98	176	144	18	78	215	99	...	270	...	...	12	...	109	1	11	...
Downs ...	2	501	52	32	...	...	4	...	9	4	...	...	216	36	1	144	6	1	8	4	112	5	69	3	30	10	...	19	617	...	...	44	15	8	...	1,017
Maranoa ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	515	...	...	...	2	29	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	4	3	...	6	7	65	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	2	...
Total Area	2	537	57	32	523	26	7	6	39	374	34	8	389	41	11	229	7	173	9	107	444	223	96	89	402	148	65	295	617	6	22	44	148	57	26	1,017
Rockingham ...	...	138	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	3,050	297,079	...	...	355	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	12,096	725	...	...	170	11	...	2,300	...	50	...	...	...	47,904	...	...
Edgecumbe ...	...	...	...	...	...	479	...	...	...	259,091	...	36	289	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,441	31,523	...	40	20,920	28	...	600	...	...	25	...	...	5,400	Nil	...
Port Curtis ...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	626	44,284	...	179	337	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	9,957	130	20	...	140	56	...	...	...	90	...	80	650	...	...
Burnett and Wide Bay	...	23	...	...	...	117	38	...	...	124,703	144	...	1,809	...	22	380	12	5,727	...	...	5,372	400	118	155	111	99	...	2,000	...	10	...	...	94	...	Nil	...
Moreton ...	...	1,057	138	...	...	774	32	7,204	12,111	38,874	3,535	923	8,129	566	1,031	3,424	...	132,201	38	9,084	50,799	48,900	394	5,234	20,071	476	...	170,881	...	...	242	...	935	2,000	Nil	...
Downs ...	3	16,144	4,216	173	...	...	434	...	5,755	1,575	...	...	8,819	1,486	111	8,991	643	300	108	674	45,815	2,414	3,891	168	4,163	43	...	19,934	186,736	...	...	20624	15	9,480	...	247,700
Maranoa ...	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	406	600	90	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	5,015	...	...	...	2,250	145,142	...	...	114	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,817	1,181	52	...	293	17	43	...	...	...	40	...	...	14,050	Nil	...
Total Produce	3	17,362	4,399	173	6,015	1,450	504	7,204	23,792	910,748	3,679	1,138	20,070	2,052	1,164	12,849	655	138,228	146	10106	150,703	85,873	4,565	5,597	45,868	733	43	195,715	186,736	60	397	20624	1,124	79,484	Nil	247,700

Table No. XII.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for HAY, together with the YIELD of HAY, and the Average Yield per ACRE in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1905.

HAY.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Wheat.		Oats.		Lucerne.		Other.		Total.	
	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Allora	315	268	80	56	1,764	1,510	...	...	2,159	1,834
Beaudesert	2	2	58	63	609	2,659	24	34	693	2,758
Brisbane ... ..	...	...	132	174	171	425	24	47	327	646
Clifton	241	239	338	296	5,046	4,683	203	176	5,828	5,394
Dalby	17	16	2	2	114	110	...	...	133	128
Dugandan ... ..	...	...	22	28	511	1,202	53	104	586	1,334
Gatton	85	98	153	150	3,235	7,031	242	473	3,715	7,752
Gympie	18	16	573	670	283	512	48	76	922	1,274
Harrisville ... ..	...	...	43	38	1,073	2,248	150	261	1,266	2,547
Highfields	85	43	24	21	466	698	8	7	583	769
Ipswich	6	7	30	33	526	1,782	41	76	603	1,898
Killarney ... ..	...	...	40	40	579	862	...	...	619	902
Laidley	34	43	64	67	3,218	7,813	66	136	3,382	8,059
Maryborough	1	1	253	354	96	207	58	100	408	662
Nanango	61	42	18	24	168	354	18	22	265	442
Rockhampton	58	40	581	455	385	500	116	160	1,140	1,155
Rosewood	10	18	22	33	512	741	78	106	622	898
South Brisbane ... ..	...	...	262	252	222	493	59	112	543	857
Toowoomba	404	237	229	225	3,648	2,904	27	43	4,308	3,409
Warwick	198	159	136	120	4,067	5,689	2	5	4,403	5,973
All other Districts	1,321	1,066	1,386	1,882	1,871	4,594	342	596	4,920	8,138
Grand Total for { 1905	2,856	2,295	4,446	4,983	28,564	47,017	1,559	2,534	37,425	56,829
{ 1904	3,137	3,608	9,076	11,549	35,009	62,970	1,518	2,535	48,740	80,662
Increase in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	...	...	...
Decrease in 1905	281	1,313	4,630	6,566	6,445	15,953	...	1	11,315	23,833
Average Yield per Acre	0·80		1·12		1·65		1·63		1·52	

Table No. XIII.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for GREEN CROPS in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1905.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	GREEN CROPS.				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Lucerne.	Other.	Total of all Kinds.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Allora	1,751	165	2,433	1,581	5,930
Brisbane	14	229	317	656	1,216
Clifton	1,124	28	914	448	2,514
Crow's Nest	485	53	221	733	1,492
Dalby	2,677	82	1,581	2,363	6,703
Gatton	418	249	1,031	2,440	4,138
Harrisville	69	270	507	381	1,227
Highfields	1,350	7	472	579	2,408
Ipswich	55	300	592	631	1,578
Killarney	219	42	884	1,377	2,522
Laidley	265	141	395	612	1,413
Marburg	41	290	446	2,275	3,052
Nanango	363	128	244	272	1,007
Rosewood	63	317	1,120	987	2,487
Roma	2,285	9	...	27	2,321
Toowoomba	2,665	580	8,827	2,701	14,773
Warwick	911	244	631	1,218	3,004
All other Districts	532	1,599	2,255	4,012	8,398
Grand Total ... { 1905	15,287	4,733	22,870	23,293	66,183
{ 1904	2,006	3,354	16,024	14,477	35,861
Increase in 1905	13,281	1,379	6,846	8,816	30,322
Decrease in 1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...

Table No. XIV.

AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE OF CROPS IN EACH DIVISION OF THE STATE FOR THE YEAR 1905.

Division.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Sugar-cane (to Acres Crushed)	Cotton.	Arrow-root (Tuber).	Tobacco (Dried Leaf.)	Coffee.	Pumpkins and Melons.	Hay of all Kinds.	Grapes.	Bananas.	Pine-apples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley, Malting.	Barley, Other.	Maize.	Rice.	Rye.	English.	Sweet.											
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozen.	Dozen.
Rockingham ... ..	...	...	...	...	36.11	29.62	...	1.31	5.38	13.81	750	10.93	10.00	336	2.81	2.47	4,726	471	620	1,671
Edgumbe ... ..	...	...	...	...	19.08	...	...	2.51	3.11	14.49	...	...	...	297	2.35	1.53	1,611	142	97	909
Port Curtis ... ..	...	...	...	...	16.88	12.00	7.00	1.60	3.64	6.33	171	...	...	267	2.53	1.06	1,334	101	153	805
Burnett and Wide Bay	9.78	...	4.00	...	17.43	16.00	16.00	1.64	4.14	15.58	1,127	...	...	300	3.17	1.65	1,788	172	293	1,085
Moreton	14.09	20.80	17.31	15.33	19.75	13.33	17.50	1.55	5.28	17.08	699	11.34	10.60	465	3.87	2.27	1,647	221	261	1,266
Downs	11.56	10.51	11.27	16.02	14.34	...	7.93	1.43	2.33	...	298	...	10.97	...	2.79	1.03	2,568	...	...	1,595
Maranoa	2.65	...	10.00	...	3.88	...	6.00	1.15	1.60	...	...	...	...	...	2.76	0.63	1,002	...	...	1,318
Other Districts	11.85	...	...	...	13.31	25.00	...	1.38	1.83	...	373	...	...	...	1.76	1.14	3,373	139	200	1,217
TOTAL AVERAGE YIELD FOR 1905	9.53	10.99	11.42	15.99	19.03	26.82	9.37	1.58	4.64	14.73	661	11.31	10.96	350	3.50	1.52	1,758	405	275	1,263
" " " 1904	14.24	23.54	19.27	17.62	21.34	27.30	11.45	1.97	4.70	16.04	861	9.37	9.09	454	3.44	1.65	1,875	296	255	1,575

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